

AUGUST 1991

GREENKEEPER

International

VARDON'S GARDEN

How the vision of golfing legend Harry Vardon is kept alive at Britain's first garden city



THE OFFICIAL BIGGA UNIFORM

Glenmuir Sweaters

Sizes: 36" - 50"

Colours: Navy, Pansy, Black, Claret, Oxford Grey, Royal, Crimson, Light Grey, Peacock, Pink, White, Blue Mist, Natural, Bottle, Emerald, Azure Blue, Buttermilk, Carmine, Firtree, Helio, Slate Blue.

Order No. BO1.....£27.95

Blazers
BIGGA Blazers (including badge) NOW available through our new supplier - order straight away!
Order No. B16.....£87.95

Glenmuir Mull Shirts

Short sleeved, 100% cotton piquet.

Sizes: XS - XXL (36" - 50")

Colours: Candy, Navy, Jade, White, Brilliant Blue, Peppermint, Ferrari Red, Peach, Sky Blue, Light Yellow.

Order No. BO4.....£15.95

Glenmuir Moffat Shirts

Short sleeved, 60% cotton / 40% polyester. Can be worn with or without a tie.

Sizes: XS - XXL (36" - 50")

Colours: Light Yellow, White, Burgundy, Jade, Pale Blue, Navy, Black, Stone, Peach, Candy, Ferrari Red, Bermuda Blue, Peppermint, Sky Blue, Oxford Grey, Ascot Blue.

Order No. BO3.....£14.95

Glenmuir Polo Neck Shirts

Sizes: XS - XXL (36" - 50")

Colours: Pale Blue, White, Navy, Ferrari Red.

Order No. BO5.....£13.95

Blazer Badge

Order No. BO9.....£11.95

Ties

Colours: Light Blue, Bottle Green.

Order No. BO7.....£4.50

Tie Bar

Order No. B13.....£2.95

Visor

Order No. B11.....£4.95

Lapel Badge

Order No. B14.....£1.95

Ladies Scarf

Order No. B15.....£6.95

TOP QUALITY
GLENMUIR
SWEATERS AND SHIRTS
WITH THE BIGGA LOGO

ATTENTION COURSE MANAGERS

Here is the simple solution to your paperwork

TRIMS

The TRIMS Ground Management Software System allows you to organise, record, report and manage people, equipment, expenses and time.

"With TRIMS you'll spend less time getting bogged down with paperwork and more time doing the job you really love"

BIGGA is the official UK distributor of TRIMS. FOR A FREE DEMO DISK CALL BIGGA HQ ON 03473 581/2

BIGGA and BETTER OFFERS

Books available from BIGGA Headquarters

A Manual on Golf Course Construction, Turf Establishment and Cultural Practices.
James B Beard

- Under the sponsorship of BIGGA, available in book form is James B Beard's two day presentation from the seminar at the BTME in Harrogate. 84 pages, soft covered and ringbound.

Price: £22 including postage.

Specifications for a Method of Putting Green Construction.

Written by members of the USGA Green Section staff and edited by William H Bengeyfield

- A complete step-by-step guide including sub-grading, drainage, gravel and course layering, root zone mixtures, top mix covering, placement, smoothing and firming with a concluding chapter, Tips for Success and Opportunities for Error.

Price: £2.50 including postage.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER ++ EXCLUSIVE OFFER

BE A PROFESSIONAL IN YOUR PROFESSION

Exclusive offer to BIGGA

members - 200 three-colour

Business Cards for only **£19.95**

(Equivalent High Street price over £76!)

YES! For less than a third of equivalent High Street print shop price, you can have 200 Business Cards which contain your name, golf club and home address and telephone numbers, plus BIGGA's logo proudly emblazoned in red, blue and black! Example shown is smaller than actual size.

Just complete the panel below with the information you would like to appear on the Business Card and send it with your cheque for £19.95 (made payable to BIGGA) to **Business Card Offer, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York YO6 2NF.**

Name:

Home Address:

.....Tel:

Golf Club:.....Position:

Address:

.....Tel:

Officials of BIGGA: Please state your position if you would like it to appear

**BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL
GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**
Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York YO6 2NF
Telephone Tollerton (03473) 581/2 Fax (03473) 8864

A N Other
Head Greenkeeper
Green Meadows Golf Club
Golf Lane
Richmond
Surrey TW9 2SB
Tel: 081 568 3742

Home address
2 Golf Cottages
Golf Lane
Richmond
Surrey TW9 2SB
Tel: 081 568 7358

Be cool when it's hot!
T-shirts
T Shirts
Only available in white. Sizes: M, L, XL
Order No. BO6.....£6.95

**SPECIAL
OFFER**
Kangol Woollen caps
only £8.95 - save over
25% on shop price.
Colours: Black, Navy, Beige,
Maroon.
Order No. B12.....£8.95

To order, simply use the Order Form card facing this page, enclosing a cheque made payable to BIGGA. Prices include VAT, Postage and Packing. NB: Overseas orders (including Republic of Ireland) will be invoiced to take account of additional postage costs and payment should not be made when placing an order.

DO YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION?
It's easy with the FREE READER REPLY SERVICE



Let Greenkeeper International work for you! For further information on the products and services advertised in this issue use the Reader Reply Card facing Page 62. Simply return the card to us (no stamp needed), stating the companies' Ad Ref numbers (found near their advertisement). We will then contact the companies for you. Below is the Greenkeeper International advertisers' index - an easy guide for you to find the advertisements in this issue.

	Ad Ref	Page
AC & M Birch	58	35
Agripower	262	50
Allett Mowers	55	31
Atterton & Ellis	7	34
Belwood Nurseries		
	331	42
BTME	330	49
Bucher Guyer	223	22
CDC	142	28
D&E Turf Maintenance		
	323	62
Devenish	307	9
Dixon & Holliday		
	214	9
Donath Seeds	316	10
DW Frost	192	26
Eric Hunter	73	27
Fairfield Turf	18	30
Grade All	71	23
Hayter Beaver	90	25
Inturf	31	37
Iseki	6	47
Kubota	86	44
Land Tech	332	48
Lely	61	40
Macro Services	309	9
Martin Bromage	333	43
Multi Core	329	26
Patissons	35	26
Ransomes	9	32-33
RFE	8	9
Rhone Poulenc	59	29
Rigby Taylor	127	6
Rolawn	34	62
Rufford	5	63
Ruskins	144	40
Sierra	161	64
SISIS	176	17
Supreme Mowing	57	20
Tillers Turf	292	24
Trelloborg	137	35
TRIMS	317	9
Turf Mech	258	49
Vitax	139	36
Wesses Farm Machinery		
	210	39
William Kenyon	51	42
Woodcare	50	43
WW Johnsons	64	38
Colleges	•	8-9
Buyers' Guide	•	55-58
Classified	•	58
Recruitment	•	50, 58-61

Advertising in Greenkeeper International works - telephone Bill Lynch on 091 413 7218, Carol Dutton on 0207 570117 or Andrew Clark on 03473 581



Official publication of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

AUGUST 1991



President
The Rt. Hon. Viscount Whitelaw K.T., C.H., M.C., D.L.

BIGGA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
Chairman: George Malcolm
Vice-Chairman: Roy Kates

BOARD MEMBERS
Ivor Scoones John Crawford
Harry Diamond Barry Heaney
Hugh Parry Paddy McCarron
John Millen Clive Osgood

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Neil Thomas B.A.

EDUCATION OFFICER
David Golding

EXHIBITIONS/MEMBERSHIP OFFICER
Debbie Savage



EDITOR
David White

Tel: 0323 891291 • Fax: 0323 895593

DESIGN/PRODUCTION EDITOR
Tim Moat
Tel: 0904 610611 • Fax: 0904 643074

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER
Bill Lynch
Tel/Fax: 091 413 7218

ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVE
Carol Dutton
Tel/Fax: 0207 570117

PRINTING
Hi-Tec Print, Unit 7, Universal Crescent, Houghton Road, North Anston Trading Estate, Dinnington, South Yorkshire S31 7JJ
Tel: 0909 568533 • Fax: 0909 568206

Greenkeeper International is the official magazine of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and is published monthly at BIGGA Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 03473 581/2 • Fax: 03473 8864

Please address all advertising, subscriptions and address changes to BIGGA.

Contents may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission. Return postage must accompany all materials submitted if return is requested. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited materials. The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £29 per year, Europe and Eire £39. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

Editorial Offices

All magazine contributions should be sent to: The Editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firlie Close, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2HL. Tel: 0323 891291. Fax: 0323 895593. Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association and no responsibility is accepted by the Association for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

ISSN 0961 - 6977

© 1991 British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

GREENKEEPER

International

CONTENTS



BIGGA greenkeepers share in Baker-Finch's Open success

BIGGA certainly made its presence felt at golf's greatest tournament at Royal Birkdale. See if you're on any of our pictures in our special Open photo-feature.....Pages 14 - 15

Perfection through perfect planning

The responsibility for nurturing Letchworth's fair acres to perfection rests with a talented young Scot, Duncan McGilvray, and his highly motivated team, backed by an enlightened committee. His approach to 'The Way Forward' suggests no simple lip-service to an idea, rather a long-term plan that worksPages 18 - 19

Introducing the first Master Greenkeeper

Laurence Pithie, Course Manager at Minchinhampton, is named as BIGGA's first Master Greenkeeper. His personal comments and observations on the MGC may prove inspirational to many future Master Greenkeepers.....Page 7

Roll up for the greatest show on turf

We preview the best of both well established products and services - along with innovative ideas and new equipment that will see the light of day for the first time at the IOG on September 3rd - 5th.Pages 20 - 40

DEPARTMENTS

- Around the Green** Waiting over and regional qualifiers declared. What odds a Scottish winner?Pages 52, 53, 54
- Faces and Places** Winners, losers, stayers, movers - all in the page that's right up to date with the news.....Page 5
- Education** Another reminder for the Management Courses - and your invitation to New Orleans....Pages 8, 12
- Advertising Features** The Compact Tractor continues to win new converts with a plethora of accessories...Pages 45, 46
Caring for young trees and saplings ..Pages 42, 43

COVER PICTURE: Looking back from the 17th green at Letchworth Golf Club: part of Duncan McGilvray's triumph

Communication is the answer

Struck by the wide variety of misinformed comment I hear from many Club members on golf course maintenance (and aren't they all experts), I am prompted to ask one simple question: Are you getting your money's worth? With few exceptions, the answer depends on how well the green committee relate with the greenkeeper.

The norm for admission to green committee status often seems to be coercion, with the sometime carrot of Club captaincy perhaps an attraction, though all too often the incumbent knows little or nothing about agronomy, course management or course architecture. How then can that weakness in the chain – knowledge – be overcome in order that the green committee man may participate effectively in an on-going maintenance programme which will continue long after he is done with committee life?

This is not the problem it seems, for the answer – practiced and preached by all effective managers – is communication.

Visiting Letchworth Golf Club, where Duncan McGilvray is the course manager, I was impressed by one of the best structures I've seen yet, where Duncan works not in isolation but as an equal in golfing terms. He eats lunch in the dining room, talks with most of the members both on and off the course and enjoys regular dialogue with the Club secretary and his course liaison officer – a one on one discourse – as well as playing the course regularly and being active at meetings. The result is that he knows what members want.

The antithesis of this enlightened approach came to my attention at a northern Club where most members didn't know the head greenkeeper's name and where a bunch of low handicappers were exerting authority to toughen the course up to the detriment of the rank and file majority. The final outcome of this aggression has yet to surface, but with the head man listening to the few, my guess would be that his job could be on the line.

There are problems in having too many bosses and again Letchworth have it right. Members may button-hole Duncan with ideas but they know how the course is managed and that only declared policy can be implemented. Such policy is well documented and programmed long term. It not only works but can be seen to be working.

The weakness of an ineffectual green committee can manifest itself in another and even more insidious fashion when complaints fail to reach the ears of the head greenkeeper. I know of more than one case where silence reigned and resulted in a programme continuing in total disregard to the members' wishes. The end result, when called to explain the direction the course was heading, was that yet another greenkeeper – rightly protesting that he hadn't heard of such problems and where early communication would have diverted the bubbling volcano – was forced to look elsewhere for a job.

In advocating an enlightened approach to course management via the green committee it would be wrong not to highlight the sterling work carried out by the STRI agronomists. They do a grand job but are quite clearly overworked. An annual course visit is fine but when isolated problems loom large and time is not on their side, Clubs must pay for expert advice and get advice *fast*. The wise greenkeeper will know not only his own course but those around him and will be able to guide his committee. If there is a moral to all this it is a simple one – communication wins friends and influences people and the good course is one where regular informed dialogue between green chairman and greenkeeper takes place. Added to this might be the truism that is much in fashion these days: a green committee should consist of an odd number... and three is too many!

DAVID WHITE



Flying Divots

An appreciation of what is not always appreciated

Gloomy outlook for some new golf course projects

As predicted in 'Flying Divots' in April, a report issued by Savills, the estate agents associated with pricey country estates and 'high rent' property in Belgravia or the like, estimates that about 30 golf course cum hotel sites are in the hands of the receiver, with many more on the brink. That grandest of grand projects – Loch Lomond – with a budget variously estimated at between £45 – £60million and promoted as a rival to Gleneagles, is "in difficulties" and is now run by an accountancy firm. It is not alone, with developers now chided for having responded too soon to the 1989 R&A report predicting a need for 700 new courses by the end of the century. As we always guessed and is now confirmed by R&A Secretary, Michael Bonallack: 'it didn't mean you could build them anywhere'. Thus it now seems that some developers have egg on their faces for building on a grand scale in places clearly inappropriate – the biggest sin.

The secret dream of some Club members – that a Japanese consortium will offer umpteen millions for their course – is now a fairy tale and Greenkeeper International understands that one estate specialist has no less than 80 potential courses and 40 existing courses on its books with precious few buyers.

Those already built will of course survive and continue, but is there really much 'silly money' around any more, where debentures of £15,000 – £30,000 are demanded? Henry Cotton had the right idea – simple courses for beginners – and one wonders if perhaps the report should not have identified the prime candidate, who is clearly not yesterday's 'yuppie'.

■ **Some 104 years later**, the following from Sir Walter Simpson, author of 'The Art of Golf' still stands in good stead: "The vital thing about a hole is that it should either be more difficult than it looks, or look more difficult than it is. It must never be what it looks."

■ **Foreigners laugh** at we British and our obsession with the weather, but it is a subject that is catching. Now some American friends have taken to weather watching and as they flew in from the yellows and browns that mark California – still drought ridden after five years – remarked on the sudden and astonishing green-ness that is our home.

Not surprising really, as June drew to a close with what we believed was a record soaker. Don't believe it! Weather men claim that the monotonous downpours were 'nothing special', with things just feeling worse because we had some rain every day.

Who and what are moving on and moving in, in the greenkeeping industry

FACES & PLACES

■ Jimmy Richardson wrote telling of young Michael Gunn's lucky escape following an incident at Tyneside GC. Michael was cutting grass on the 15th fairway when his tractor somersaulted three times down a 30ft ravine before coming to a halt and catapulting him clear. Michael's father, club professional Mac Gunn, on talking of Michael's injuries to back, neck and stomach, said; "He is lucky to be alive. The tractor could easily have fallen upon him".



■ Ian Corcoran, pictured, Assistant Greenkeeper, Market Drayton GC, will play in the 36 hole strokeplay Dunhill Amateur Masters at Woburn on September 6th. This after placing first in the regional finals held at Tytherington GC. He beat last year's Champion, Ian Pethybridge, by one shot.

■ Scottish BIGGA Chairman, Harry Diamond, who is also head greenkeeper at Belleisle and Seafield GC, had a dodgy start to his day recently when vandals decided to make an unscheduled visit and set fire to the starters box. It was razed to the ground.



■ Despite forbidding weather forecasts which happily proved wrong, nearly 100 head greenkeepers attended two Sta-Brite golf days in June, the first held on a blustery but dry day at Calcot Park GC, the second at Mid Kent GC, Gravesend.

At both events a great day's golf was followed by a splendid dinner, with prizes presented by Mike Fabb, General Manager of Sta-Brite.

Pictured: Mid Kent winners, from left, Richard Pride, Willie McConville (winner) Ron Christie (third) Mike Smith (runner-up) and George Barr (longest drive).

■ Gordon Moir, the Sherlock Holmes of Fraserburgh, wrote telling a sad tale concerning Derek Ray, head greenkeeper at Nairn Dunbar, who - wait for it - broke his leg playing cricket! I wonder, do we send Derek a get-well card or a contribution toward psychiatric guidance?

■ From the East Midlands, via Walter Cole of Longcliffe GC, comes the startling news that Tim Allard has had a baby! We bet his wife is pleased and is taking great care of the new 'mother' during the critical nursing period. Good luck to them both!



■ ICI have just appointed a new member to their National Sales Team, Johny Beck, who takes up the position as ICI's Technical Area Sales Representative responsible for the south and south east of England. Johny has recently moved to be central to his area and can be contacted on 02407 4741.

■ It's difficult to keep Elmwood College out of the press these days, and now comes news that a Toro 3000 D Greensmaster has been donated by the manufacturers through A M Russell Ltd of Edinburgh, who will undertake all servicing. The machine will be used on Elmwood's golf

course and in training greenkeeping students.

■ Hawtree, the golf course architecture practice responsible for more than 600 projects world-wide, will celebrate their 80th birthday in style next year with their first Indian course, a newly commissioned 27 hole layout in New Delhi. India was the first country outside Great Britain to be introduced to the game, the first Club being established in 1829, and it is hoped that this course will mark a revival of golf in a country with a great golfing tradition.



■ The firmly established Annual Parkers Greenkeepers Tournament was staged recently at Cuddington GC, with 68 Golf Clubs represented. The coveted Parkers Rose Bowl was won by Eric Green, Woodcote Park GC, with 35 points, followed by Stuart McMillan, Leatherhead GC, with 34 points.

Pictured: far right, Mr Jim Parker; centre, Mrs Yvonne Montague, far left, Peter Simpson, and the winners.



■ Barcham Trees of Soham, Ely, Cambridgeshire, have appointed Andrew Mitchell to their sales team to promote their range of container grown trees. Andrew was formerly with the Crown Estates Commissioners at Windsor and Notcutts Garden Centres.



■ Steven English has been appointed UK Sales Manager - Tyres, for Trelleborg Ltd. He will be responsible for the market development of Trelleborg Low Ground Pressure tyres used in the sportsturf industry.

■ The footprints of a giant lizard which last roamed the Cheshire Plain over 230 million years ago have been re-created in the shape of two bunkers on the Donald Steel designed Portal golf course, which opened for play on June 24th. Portal is aimed primarily at the corporate business market and will operate on a pay-as-you-play basis, with a green fee of £30.

Picture by TONY PUGH



■ Excavation at Chirk Golf and Country Club, near Oswestry, meant digging out a huge rock weighing in at 35 tons, a back-breaking task. Pictured with course manager Alan Sharp (left) are Roy Thelwell, Patrick Anderson, George Griffiths, Richard Taylor, Haydn Jones, Sidney Woods, Barry Roberts and Mike Turner. Now where exactly did you bury Alan's car lads?



Howard Swan commented recently on the creation of the first nine hole Sir Henry Cotton Foundation course for beginners at Bridlington. He said: 'Sir Henry wanted to see some simple courses built where beginners felt comfortable and were able, under tuition, to learn the rules and the correct way to play. I hope Bridlington Bay will be the first of many such facilities'. Cotton, three times Open Champion, thought simple strips of land with mown areas for tees and greens were all that was required for people to start playing golf. The nine-holer forms part of a new 27 hole complex.

■ Picture shows the late Sir Henry Cotton with Howard Swan, with whom he collaborated on many projects developing the simple theme of golf for beginners, now embodied in the Sir Henry Cotton Foundation.

TALK TO RIGBY TAYLOR

Information for Professionals

See us
on
Stand
L42-44
and
54-56
at the
IOG

ORGANIC PRODUCTS

Whatever your turf or soil requirements there is a Rigby Taylor organic product that's just right for the job. Through experience and careful control we've created a range of organic products – but deciding which one is best for you, needs careful selection if it's going to provide maximum benefit.

This brief summary indicates

which of our organic products might be right for you but for full information and advice on your specific application and ground conditions please phone us free. It costs you nothing to talk directly to a member of our experienced team – all you have to do is dial 0800 424 919. If we can't solve your problem over the phone we can arrange for a Technical Representative to call.



MASCOT Organic Liquid Fertilizer

Clean flowable safe and non-toxic liquid cow manure which has been effectively aged for more than 12 months and contains no additives. It acts as a soil conditioner and improves soil structure which in turn increases nutrient availability.

MASCOT Organic Liquid Green

Combining standard Mascot Organic Liquid Fertilizer with iron to provide a green-up effect without promoting excessive foliar growth. Iron also helps to harden off the turf making it less susceptible to fungal diseases.

MASCOT Organic Liquid Cocktail

The proven benefits of liquid cow manure and seaweed extract are combined in this 70:30 mixture. It represents a 'ready to use' formulation with a wetting agent to enhance the products soil penetration and provide a tonic to the grass which encourages tillering, growth and colour.

Alginure Soil Improver

Derived from seaweed, Alginure Soil Improver is a powerful organic colloid promoting a progressive increase in microbial activity and redresses many of the imbalances which hamper healthy growth. As well as turf management, Alginure Soil Improver can be used in tree and shrub planting.

Alginure Turf Supplement

An economic liquid seaweed extract treatment designed to enhance the effects created in the soil by Alginure Plus and thereby maintain a healthy sward.

Alginure Plus – for Turf

Incorporates an added organic powder ingredient which supplies extra nutrients and trace elements, including nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium and calcium. Its new easy to handle smoothness provides a safe and effective conditioner for all turf.

Rigby Taylor



A GROWING FORCE IN LEISURE

NEW
New Mascot Organic
Top Dressing
available exclusively
from Rigby Taylor

AD
REF
127

Don't forget!

- you can talk to us free on  **FREE 0800 424 919**

Following the recent Stage III examination for the Master Greenkeeper Certificate, Laurence Pithie has been declared Britain's first Master Greenkeeper – after being the only candidate who successfully completed the two examination papers presented.

Laurence, Course Manager of Minchinhampton Golf Club in Gloucestershire, will be presented with his Master Greenkeeper Certificate by Viscount Whitelaw in Harrogate next January at the opening ceremony of the BIGGA (BTME) Exhibition and Seminar Programme.

Since the Master Greenkeeper Certificate (MGC) was launched at BTME in January 1990, many members have been striving toward achieving the magical 200 credits necessary for completion of the first stage. From this, four members moved successfully on to stage II, which involves a visit to their respective places of work by a panel, before moving to the final hurdle, the examination!

Shortly after examination day and before the results had been announced, Laurence wrote to our Education Officer, David Golding, outlining his views on the MGC programme. Such a thoughtful document deserves wider exposure and with the proud result no longer a secret, we print it here in its entirety.



Picture: Wilts and Glos Standard

Britain's first **MASTER GREENKEEPER**

THE MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE – FROM A MEMBER'S VIEW

When details of the MGC were first published, I thought to myself 'do I really need to undergo a lengthy procedure of study and examination?' After all, I had 20 years experience in greenkeeping, 14 of them as a course manager, as well as gaining various greenkeeping certificates many years ago. In fact, there must be many more course managers who have greater experience than myself and who may also have a proven track record of hosting major events.

Then I thought, 'if this certificate is just about the number of years one is engaged in working on a golf course, it seems fairly useless and unlikely to be accepted as a meaningful achievement within the golf industry'. Conversely, if our profession is to meet the ever increasing demand for better surfaces and progress successfully toward the year 2000, then the need to establish a worthwhile qualification is greater than ever.

In 1971 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) recognised this problem and implemented their own Certification Programme (or Program, as they spell it) soon after. It has been tremendously successful in raising the standards their profession and my view is that we must do likewise and learn from our American colleagues.

Education is, has, and always will be the foundation upon which BIGGA exists, for through training and education it can promote confidence, improve technical knowledge and engender motivation, which leads in turn to greater respect. Managing today's golf courses requires not just practical experience but a wealth of technical expertise in understanding the theory and practice of turfgrass management. If we are to change the public conception of being 'the greenkeeper that cuts the grass', we must improve our image.

The course manager must be an agronomist as well as a business manager and public relations officer, he should also understand the basic principles and inter-relationships of turfgrasses; soils; fertilisers and pesticides, as well as irrigation; drainage and construction. Together with this knowledge he must have the ability to train; supervise; motivate and lead by example, as

well as possess the ability to communicate ideas and plans in a professional manner when addressing committees or a board of directors.

It must be seen therefore that it is increasingly important for aspiring course managers to prepare for the technical and managerial aspects of their profession by attending college, conferences, seminars and management/workshop courses organised by our Association. Only then can we as individuals hope to advance our own careers and raise the standards of our profession.

The MGC was set up to recognise these aims and gaining any such certification should be regarded as a worthwhile achievement. If the MGC was simply 'handed out' to those greenkeepers with 20 years or more experience, or far worse, made too easy, then it would not meet the required objectives and be a complete waste of time. With this new qualification there will inevitably be a degree of fine-tuning required, but I firmly believe that it will be seen as a most thorough and comprehensive examination of all the technical skills required by those who seek to manage both golf course and course personnel. As such, it will be warmly welcomed by those within the golf industry.

Gaining certification requires that the candidate accumulate 200 credits – recognising one's educational efforts and commitment as well as years of practical experience. A successful assessment of the candidate's course and style of management follows, perceiving the desire that person has to provide the best possible playing conditions at all times and – not unnaturally – this generates a feeling of pride and fulfilment. It is, however, the third and final stage which demands the greatest self discipline – that of studying and being able to answer a large and varied number of detailed questions relating to every aspect of turfgrass management.

My eight months of self sacrifice brought home to me the reality that there was much I didn't know without further research. As a result of that research, the knowledge gained has proved most beneficial in my own career, as well as being essential in completing the final examination.

■ If you think education's not for you – think again!

Laurence Pithie's success story reflects his determination and hard work for the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

This autumn, another BIGGA education process takes place. The management courses, held at Aldwark Manor, are aimed specifically at attracting greenkeepers who may not have received further education or greenkeeper training.

BIGGA management courses are entertaining – they're educational, but not at the expense of being boring, and speakers don't talk over your head.

Talk to anyone who has already attended, ask about the courses and what they gained from them, ask about the spirit of informal good fellowship that pervades throughout the whole period – the exchange of ideas and the sheer good fun of it all.



If that doesn't convince, look hard at the sits. vac. columns and see how the better educated command higher pay!

You too could enjoy the company of over 100 fellow greenkeepers: for more details, see the pre-paid management courses postcard facing Page 2 in this magazine.

We reckon there will be a big demand for places – so book now!

**SPARSHOLT
COLLEGE
HAMPSHIRE**

**GREENKEEPING & GOLF COURSE
MANAGEMENT TRAINING**

Sparsholt is unique in offering a wide range of full and part-time practical training, including

Full-time Courses

BTEC National Diploma in Golf Course and Sportsground Management (3 years)
National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sportsground Management (1 year)

Part-time Courses

A full range of day, evening or residential block courses.

For further details contact:

The Courses Adviser, Sparsholt College, Hampshire,
Nr Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF Tel: 0962 72441.

Sparsholt is a Greenkeeper Training Committee Approved College



Quality our Priority

A BIGGA APPROVED TRAINING CENTRE

★ Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management - Phase II level,
Block Release.

★ Enterprise Management - Greenkeeping - Phase III level,
Block Release

★ Short Modular Courses tailored to the industry

For details and application form

Contact NICK RIGDEN at CANNINGTON COLLEGE,
BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET TA5 2LS
TELEPHONE 0278 652226

**Want to know about
Greenkeeper Training?**

Askham Bryan College can set your Career on the right course. We have been training Greenkeepers for many years and are a Centre approved by the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

Telephone Mrs Margaret Cairns
on 0904 702121 and benefit
from our experience.



...Ask Askham!

ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE

ASKHAM BRYAN, YORK. Tel: (0904) 702121

**PLUMPTON
COLLEGE**



**DAY
OR
BLOCK
RELEASE**

**WE OFFER DAY OR BLOCK RELEASE
TURFCULTURE COURSES IN:**

- Phase I - with a Greenkeeping Bias
- Phase II - Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management
- Phase III - Enterprise Management
- Phase IV - Business Management

**One year full time preliminary course also offered
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

Mr. David Blackmur, Plumpton College, Ditching Road, near Lewes,
East Sussex

Tel: Plumpton (0273) 890454, ext. 33

**'The MGC... should be the aim
of every golf course manager
or head greenkeeper'**

7 ➤ For those who remain undecided about registering for the certification programme, let me remind you of one simple fact. Considerably more money is now being invested in maintaining today's courses and just as these sums increase significantly each year, so also does Club management seek assurance that the man entrusted to take charge knows exactly what he is doing. The knowledge gained through years of practical experience is both invaluable and essential, no one would disagree. Equally important however, and rightly so, is the need for technical skills and those of a manager. The MGC provides proper recognition for these facets of total management and achieving this qualification should be the aim of every golf course manager or head greenkeeper.

■ Laurence Pithie, Britain's first Master Greenkeeper, is 38 and lives in Tetbury with his wife Sandra and their two children, aged six and 10. He first entered greenkeeping in 1970, beginning as an apprentice at Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, whilst studying at Elmwood College, before moving to Moretonhall, also in Edinburgh and thence to Sandiway in Cheshire as head greenkeeper. Five years later he became Course Manager, Minchinhampton Golf Club, a position he has held for some ten years.

On three occasions Laurence has visited the USA as National Greenkeeper and Groundsman of The Year, presenting papers on turfgrass management to an international audience in Houston, Texas. When not at Minchinhampton he can often be found photographing other golf courses and now possesses a large collection of slides, books and other literature relating to golf course management. Not surprisingly, his 'other' interests are sporting and include both golf and badminton.

The Joint Golf Course Committee

'Great cause' continues

After the announcement in the June issue of Greenkeeper International that the R&A had created The Joint Golf Course Committee, a decision to broaden the horizon for greenkeeper education has been taken. The appointment of Bob McLaren as Chairman of the JGCC Greenkeeper Training and Recruitment Panel will come as no surprise to those who have been following the fortunes of "The Way Forward."

Bob's volunteer support of golf has been highly visible for many years and significantly his professional career was in the field of education. After a number of years in the Glasgow Education System, McLaren became head teacher at Quarriers School for Special Education near Largs, where he now lives. Before retirement, Bob was active in the game as Ayrshire delegate to the Scottish Golf Union, which led to him being elected President in 1989.

As a member, now Chairman, of the Greenkeeper Training Committee from 1984 and a member of the four man R&A committee commissioned to further the cause of "The Way Forward", this first chairman of a Joint Golf Course Committee Panel stated quite simply, "I expect the next few years to be of great benefit to Golf Clubs and golfers". Of course, that is exactly what Bob McLaren has been doing for a long time past; so why should we expect less now?

Readers of Greenkeeper International are first to know the Terms of Reference for the JGCC. Here are extracts of consequence for greenkeepers.

- 'To recommend standards of golf course construction and maintenance.
- To work with National Golf Unions and other organisations for the improvement of education and professional standards for greenkeepers.
- To promote golf-related turf research.
- To ensure availability of effective agronomic and technical advice.
- To encourage more effective committee structures and the formation of long term management plans within Clubs.
- To raise funds for the furtherance of stated objectives'.

If anyone can give reasons why these objectives are not in the best interests of golf, let him or her speak out in the next issue of Greenkeeper International. More to the point, the writer would love to hear from anyone with bright ideas towards dealing with the last of these Terms. Golfers are well known for their generosity in the clubhouse bar, let's hope they will spare the cost of a pint a year on behalf of one of the hot topics they pontificate upon, that being - whether they know it or not - "The Great Cause".

● The writer, Eric Shiel, is Executive Director of the Joint Golf Course Committee.

GET BACK ON THE COURSE WITH

BIGGA is the official UK distributor

TRIMS

Save time and money with TRIMS Ground Management Software

A complete record keeping package and the simple solution to your paperwork

For:

- Budgets & Expenses
- Equipment Maintenance
- Spare Parts Inventory
- Purchase Orders
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Fuel Inventory
- Personnel Records
- Labour activity
- Work Orders
- Irrigation
- Chemical Usage
- Fertiliser Application

Call or write today for your **FREE** Demo Disk (state size: 3 1/2" or 5 1/4") and see what **TRIMS** can do for you!

Come and have a chat with BIGGA staff about TRIMS at the IOG Show - meet us on Stand E32



Contact BIGGA HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF Tel: 03473 581/2 • Fax: 03473 8864 or use the Reader Reply Card, stating which size disk you require.

AD REF 317

MACRO SERVICES

DO YOU NEED A TEE REBUILT?
A GREEN RESHAPED OR CONSTRUCTED,
BUNKERS REVAMPED OR DRAINED
OR
MORE SUBSTANTIAL CONSTRUCTION WORK?

If you do, we can help. Macro Services have established an excellent reputation over a number of years after successfully completing work on numerous courses, including ROMSEY GOLF CLUB and HOCKLEY GOLF CLUB.

SPECIALISTS IN GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION

We pride ourselves on the personal service we offer. Call us without obligation to discuss your requirements - large or small.

MACRO SERVICES

8 Purkess Close, Chandlers Ford, Hants SO5 2ED
Tel: (0703) 261960 or 0860 805526

AD REF 309



NORWOOD HALL INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELD

GREENKEEPING AND SPORTSTURF MANAGEMENT

Career progression
Part-time courses

Leading to qualifications of the City and Guilds of London Institute.
Phase II

Institute of Groundsmanship
Practical and technical certificates
Intermediate Diploma
Diploma in Sportsturf Science and Management

Enrolment: 3rd, 4th, 5th September 1991

For further details contact:
Student Admissions
Norwood Hall Institute of Horticulture
Norwood Green, Southall, Middx UB2 4LA
Telephone: 081 574 2261 Fax: 081 571 9479

NIKKEN KNAPSACK BRUSH CUTTER/MOWER

The Nikken fitted with its unique hover hood gives total flexibility and freedom of movement, giving a very neat finish to your bunker slopes and banks.

The operator can either mow from inside the bunker mowing uphill or mow from the top reaching down into the bunker, both achieved with total ease.

Flying sand is no problem with Nikken due to all sensitive components being protected and out of harm's way on operator's back, which only weighs 12lbs.

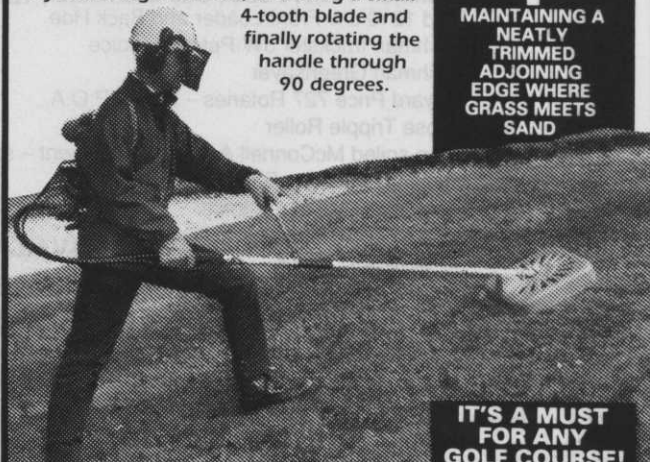
Edges can be quickly and neatly trimmed by removing the hood, attaching a small 4-tooth blade and finally rotating the handle through 90 degrees.

THREE PROBLEMS WITH ONE SINGLE SOLUTION

■ SUCCESSFUL MOWING OF STEEP BANKS & SLOPES THAT COVER MOST BUNKERS

■ NO ENGINE FAILURE DUE TO FLYING SAND THAT CAUSES MOST REGULAR MACHINE BREAK DOWNS

■ MAINTAINING A NEATLY TRIMMED ADJOINING EDGE WHERE GRASS MEETS SAND



IT'S A MUST FOR ANY GOLF COURSE!

Send for details now to: **DIXON & HOLLIDAY LTD**
Unit 4, Graham Potter Estate, Beech Avenue, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1JY
Tel & Fax (0793) 513214 Sales (0462) 700547

AD REF 214

Is there anyone who has ever played the game who hasn't had visions of being a golf course architect?

All golfers, from the top of the PGA Tour to the last little youngster in a junior tournament, all have illusions about the golf courses they play and those they would like to play. How often have you glanced out of the car window to see a grassy, wooded meadow and thought what a wonderful little 4 par that would make?

I did the very same thing in my younger days, and I still do. In my case, with a very famous father blazing a legendary trail in front of me, I actually *did* become a golf course architect.

Now that I look at it from the other side, it's amusing to hear the comment of golfers with regard to golf course design and construction. Years ago when Alister Mackenzie and Donald Ross were laying out courses, they would find a receptive piece of ground, a few mules and a drag line and get to work. A little mounding around the tees and greens, finishing work on the putting surfaces, some grass seed and a little water and you had a golf course.

However, in recent times, that has all changed. It often seems like most of the great sites have already been taken. In Japan they literally move mountains. In Hawaii we actually make topsoil out of lava rock. In the deserts of the Southwest we grow grass right out of the sand. In the US and Canadian Rockies we carve fairways right out of granite.

Finding the land is only the start of the puzzle. Then there is the endless permit process, including the EIR (Environmental Impact Report). Modern golf courses are now built to higher standards than ever before, and our private clubs and better public courses are now maintained in better playing condition than the generations before us ever knew. Even under ideal conditions, the design and building of a golf course today is a mammoth undertaking.

In getting ready to open our latest course in Madison, Wisconsin, we pulled together a few statistics and facts which will give an indication of what goes into a course in addition to a little seed, some sand and a few flags. Check these numbers: **Par** 72. **Hole variety:** five par threes, eight par fours, five par fives. **Length;** Tournament: 6,825 yds. Championship: 6,402 yds. Standard: 5,826 yds. Forward tees: 5,905 yds. **Area statistics;** Acreage: 310 acres, Manicured turf: 110 acres, Average green size: 6,500 sq.feet. Practice putting green size: 14,000 sq.feet. Chipping green size; 8,000 sq.feet. Average tee grouping size: 11,000 sq.feet. Acreage of fairways: 32.5 acres. Acreage of roughs: 71 acres. **Construction Statistics;** Turf laid during construction: 250,000 sq.feet. Irrigation pipe laid: 14.5 miles. Irrigation heads installed: 725 sprinklers. Satellite irrigation controllers: 17. Centralised computer controlled irrigation system: Toro Network 8000. Cartpaths: 21,500 linear feet. Drainage pipe installed: 2.15 miles.

In our company we have four project engineers, all of whom are accredited golf and landscape architects and fine golfers who maintain single figure handicaps. Each is a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, a



So you want to build a **GOLF COURSE?**

The Berkshire Golf Club under construction in 1928, using horses, manpower and drag lines. A far cry from its higher budgeted neighbour of 1991, Wisley Golf Club

prestigious organisation which promotes and elevates the game in every way possible.

What's the point of all this? It is simply that the specialised construction drawings for grading, drainage, irrigation and the various other details are never seen by the golfer. The blasting and the handpicking of rocks occurs long before the first shot is hit. And the talented people who design and build golf courses are not often visible either.

Those beautifully turfed golf courses that you enjoy are not laid out casually on the back of an envelope. Nor are they the result of pushing a little dirt around and throwing some grass seed on the ground. They are the result of talented and skillful people devoting what is often the better part of three years to plan, design and construct.

So the next time you think about becoming a golf course architect, remember it takes more than just a good golf game. Just as becoming proficient as an expert golfer requires years of play and countless hours on the practice tee, so too is a long apprenticeship needed to be a real golf architect in fact. Just as the great player makes the game look easy, so the best of golf course architects often make their work look easy, too. Don't you believe it. I have a lot of dirty clothes and worn out shoes to prove how tough it really is!

■ The author, Robert Trent Jones Jnr, is the famous son of a famous father, together responsible for the design of hundreds of courses around the world. The new Wisley Golf Club in Surrey, due to be opened this month, is a Robert Trent Jones Jnr creation. Our thanks to Bob Murphy and "Reading The Green" for generousities extended.



Go with **BIGGA** to the *GCSAA Conference and Show* in **NEW ORLEANS**

12-19 February, 1992

Main details

Airline: American Airlines
Airport: Heathrow

An aircraft change will be required in Chicago of everyone on the outward journey with those returning from New Orleans again needing to change at Chicago.

Customs and immigration checks will take place at Chicago.

PACKAGE 1

7 nights Holiday Inn Crown Plaza – single
inclusive cost: **£999**

PACKAGE 2

7 nights Holiday Inn Crown Plaza – twin
inclusive cost: **£754**

PACKAGE 3

7 nights Quality Inn – single
inclusive cost: **£835**

PACKAGE 4

7 nights Quality Inn – twin
inclusive cost: **£679**

PACKAGE 5

6 nights Holiday Inn Crown Plaza – single
inclusive cost: **£1,321**

PACKAGE 6

6 nights Holiday Inn Crown Plaza, 4 nights on tour in Florida – twin
inclusive cost: **£949**

PACKAGE 7

6 nights Quality Inn, 4 nights on tour in Florida – single
inclusive cost: **£1,196**

PACKAGE 8

6 nights Quality Inn, 4 nights on tour in Florida – twin
inclusive cost: **£874**

The above prices include all travel, transfers and tours where indicated.

Insurance:

7 Days – £34.00
10 Days – £39.50

A deposit of £100 per person plus insurance if requested is required at the time of booking.

The visit is priced at an exchange rate of \$1.70 and prices may be reduced or increased if the change in the exchange rate exceeds 3%. Should this mean paying more than 10% in the flight price, there will be an option to cancel with a full refund of all money paid except for any premium paid for flight insurance and amendment charges.

Exercise of the right to cancel in those circumstances must be within seven days from the issue date of the surcharge invoice.

It's a holiday and learning experience rolled into one – AND it's the trip of the year and maybe the holiday of a lifetime!

As with this year's trip to Las Vegas, BIGGA will be joining with the IOG to visit the 1992 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Conference and Show in New Orleans, which will be held from 10-17 February.

The trip will include an optional extension to Florida taking in the Everglades National Park, Key West and Fort Lauderdale for four days sightseeing and relaxation before returning home direct from Miami.

With a world class convention centre plus a rich heritage and countless cultural attractions, New Orleans will be an ideal venue for this prestigious event.

Two hotels are available – the Holiday Inn Crown Plaza situated about three blocks from the Convention Centre and the Quality Inn situated on Maison St Charles, a 20 minute walk to the centre and French quarter. Both hotels have all the usual facilities and are of the standard expected from four star hotels in America. Included in the itinerary is a three hour tour of the city on the Thursday morning which will enable the

group to gain a feel for the area. Flights will be with American Airlines departing from London Heathrow, with an optional supplement from Manchester.

Those joining the extension will depart New Orleans on 18 February for Miami where mini buses will be waiting to pick-up the party and will be used to transport the party during the four days. Arrival is anticipated by lunchtime at the Comfort Suite Hotel at Deerfield Beach, just north of Fort Lauderdale, giving an afternoon of relaxation before continuing the following morning via the Everglades (boat tour included) and the 49 bridges to the most south easterly point in the USA, Key West, for the last three nights. In addition to the good beaches, a number of places are available to visit, including the world's second largest coral reef.

At the end of three days in Key West, the party returns to Miami for a non-stop flight to London, which departs early evening.

Please complete and return the booking form – this can be photocopied or the details can be written on a plain sheet of paper if you don't wish to cut up your magazine.



BOOKING FORM • GCSAA Conference and Show, New Orleans

Please return to BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF

Full Name

Address

Telephone: (work)..... (home)

Name of additional passengers

1 2 3

Employer Occupation

	No. of persons		No. of persons
	£		£
Package 1	.....999	Package 5	.....1,321
Package 2	.....754	Package 6	.....949
Package 3	.....835	Package 7	.....1,196
Package 4	.....679	Package 8	.....874

I shall/shall not* require Insurance (*delete as applicable)
7 day.....£33.00 10 days (inc. 4 day extension).....£39.50

Are you a smoker?....Yes/No*

I wish to fly from Manchester (£25 supplement).....(tick if applicable)

I require internal flights fromto Heathrow for persons on (date)

Any other special requirements (vegetarian meals etc)

I enclose a deposit of £100 per person, plus insurance payment (if requested). TOTAL ENCLOSED: £

Deadline for deposit 30 September 1991. Final payment by 30 November 1991.

CANCELLATION PROCEDURE Period Before Departure Date	Cancellation Charge as a % of Total Holiday Cost
More than 56 days	Deposit only
56-29 days	30%
28 or less	100%

Under certain circumstances, cancellation charges are covered by the comprehensive travel insurance policy. As cover is provided by the insurance company from the date of purchase of the policy, insurance premiums are not refundable and are excluded from the total holiday price for the purpose of calculating cancellation charges.

■ I was disgusted to read in the June Surrey Section notes in *Around the Green* that certain people had been found to have 'lent' their BIGGA membership cards to friends in order that they may obtain a free round of golf.

In my opinion, as public flogging is no longer within the law, those involved should be properly exposed and have all privileges withdrawn forthwith.

Comment, please.

ROGER GLAZIER Cuddington Golf Club

At a time when greenkeepers are making such great strides in presenting a professional image I find such behaviour beyond comprehension. The act is not just irresponsible, it is tantamount to criminal theft. Personally I'm all in favour of a good flogging! – editor.

■ May I respond to Jim Arthur's article 'When Will They Learn', which I found entertaining. However, the facts are misconstrued.

Grass needs a balanced diet of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, as well as micro nutrients. There are a lot of phosphorus and potassium deficient courses all over the world and as phosphorus can be available or unavailable, why not take the guesswork out and recommend soil testing?

Pennecross was not bred to replace Bermuda grass in warm areas of the USA. It was bred to out compete *Poa annua* in cool northern climes, as a cool season grass. Because of its superior putting quality it has been pushed further and further south to replace Rye and/or Bermuda grass greens. Management techniques in the south are quite different to those in the north. It is a cool season grass, very aggressive in growth habit. If not managed properly it will thatch and spike up; however, if managed properly it produces a very good putting surface.

The principle behind USGA Spec. greens is improved drainage and reduced compaction – the biggest problem all over the world. Common sense tells me that USGA Spec or other greens which drain well and do not compact would be most desirable in the UK climate, which is cool and moist. A plant needs a certain amount of water to live. Because evapotranspiration rates are extremely high in the desert, water requirements are high. In Britain, evapotranspiration rates are low, thus water requirements are low. The need to get rid of water quickly (by drainage) is much more critical in the UK than in most other climates in the world.

We would welcome visits to East Sussex National by Mr Arthur or any other research organisation to run experiments and tests. In this business we can only go forward with continued research and experiments.

KEN SIEMS East Sussex National GC

■ I enclose a pamphlet that I produced for our Club members which may be of interest to BIGGA members.

The idea arose following a conversation with some of our lady members who genuinely believed that we "just cut grass".

I am pleased to report that the pamphlet has met with favourable comment, though we shall have to wait and see what effect it has in practice.

ED ROWSON Welwyn Garden City GC

The pamphlet, entitled 'They only cut the grass, don't they...?' is a little too long to reproduce here, but it outlines the complete role of the greenkeeper in golf course management. A bright and innovative idea, copies may be obtained by sending an SAE to BIGGA HQ at Aldwark Manor.

■ Your contributor, Cedric Johns, on the question of impounding winter water for summer irrigation omits two important points.

If holding lakes are constructed on a permeable subsoil, they have to be lined or puddled – no easy or inexpensive task. If such lakes are used as a water source – and the level is lowered – the puddling cracks when exposed to the air and the lakes cannot be brought up to their previous level. Furthermore, nothing looks worse than a dry 'water feature' – a muddy weed-infested wilderness. Holding lakes must not double as water features, but be kept out of sight.

The second point is that if reservoirs (ie. lined or puddled holding ponds) are built with the bulk of the excavation below the water table, when extraction lowers the water level inside to below that of the water table outside, the liner; plastic construction or even puddling will be blown out of the ground by ground water pressure – or at least ruptured and leak.

Construction of dams across valleys to impound water is not

Letters

COMPETITION RESULTS

Short of actually visiting Chateau des Vigiers Golf and Country Club in the south of France, designed by Donald Steel and built by our 'First of the Summer Wine' competition sponsors, Brian D Pierson (Contractors) Ltd, the next best thing is to enjoy some of their tempting wines. Results of the competition are now available and reveal the following three members as lucky winners of a case of wine bearing the distinctive Chateau des Vigiers label: Terry Tench from Northwich, Cheshire, Angus Gray from Stanton in the Wolds, Nottingham, and Richard Whyman from Bude, in Cornwall.

These three, selected at random from the competition postbag, will shortly be receiving their prizes for correctly completing the answers, which were:

1: Pete Dye, 2: 'The Way Forward' and 'The Demand for Golf', 3: Derek Ganning, The Belfry, 4: The Royal and Ancient Golf Club, The United States Golf Association, The English Golf Union, Federation Française de Golf (French Golf Federation), British Association of Golf Course Constructors, 5: Muirfield.

something to entrust to the local earth mover. It is all very well putting an obstruction across a small valley provided adequate spill ways are designed and constructed, but dams to hold back several million gallons need wing walls cut deep back into the valley side, and without fail-safe spillways etc. the whole lot can easily end up downstream, which can be a costly exercise in compensation.

JIM ARTHUR Budleigh Salterton, Devon

■ I write to thank the BIGGA HQ staff for their help in the 'Placement Referral Scheme', especially Debbie Savage, who was extremely helpful in relaying messages between me and my new employers. She played a vital role in my achieving my new position.

I would also like to thank Scarborough South GC for sending me to Askham Bryan College, which enabled me to become qualified, and to head greenkeeper, Colin Robinson, for passing on his knowledge to me at every opportunity.

D ROWE Golf Club Herford, West Germany

■ I was intrigued at the introduction into the UK of the Toro HydroJect 3000 ('Shot in the Dark' – June issue) and greatly admire the design of this beautifully engineered product.

I am among the first to applaud new thinking in the field of surface and sub-surface cultivation without disruption... but the article, written not unexpectedly with an American slant, compares water injection only with core-aeration and implies that this is the only conventional method of aeration.

Of course, in the USA, regular slit-tining for sub-surface cultivation does not feature in many maintenance programmes, whereas in the UK greenkeepers have for years slit-tined on a regular basis to fulfil most of the needs described. Many would refute, on this side of the Atlantic anyway, that coring is the only conventional method of aeration.

'Compaction pans' due to repeated cultivation to a uniform depth are a phenomenon more prevalent in the USA. British greenkeepers, with solid support and recommendations from consultants such as Jim Arthur, have for many years been regularly slitting at four, six, eight inches and deeper, with such as the Hydromain, to avoid such a pan developing.

The long, uncompacted hole produced by such tines have side walls of a considerable area to absorb air and moisture, promote gaseous exchange and encourage deeper root growth, all contributing to a healthier sward.

I wonder why the research in Michigan compared work on plots which had only received hollow-tine or non-cultivation? Surely on such areas any type of deep penetration would provide conclusive improvement.

Interesting also that soil strength measurements showed water injection treatment effective to a depth of four inches against hollow-tining at only two inches! When necessary we are consistently coring to four or five inches, with measurable cores on the surface to prove it. It must be difficult (or at least time consuming) to truly assess the regular penetration depth of a jet of water into a surface where degrees of compaction are variable.

I may well be accused of bias, perhaps justifiably, but it seems to me the title 'Shot in the Dark' is apt. Perhaps we need a little more light on the subject.

ARTHUR HARRISON SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd

To David Golding, Education Officer

■ I have recently been accepted for a Greenkeeping Management course at Oaklands College and seek your help in gaining practical experience whilst progressing toward my qualifications.

I live on the Herts/Beds borders and wish to enter the greenkeeping profession. I find that without practical greenkeeping experience my college progress is hampered. Can any Club use a willing and eager extra hand?

DAVID DAY 70 Woodside Rd, Lower Woodside, Caddington, Beds LU1 4DQ

As the final cheers for Ian Baker-Finch die away, the machine-gun fire of champagne corks in the R&A and VIP hospitality marquees finally fade and the back slapping ceases, thoughts of the greenkeeping cognoscenti turn, not surprisingly, to the part played by BIGGA members in this most spectacular sporting pageant of all time.

The Open is really something special for a multitude of reasons, for just as the game could not take place without world class professionals, so also it could not take place without the care taken over so many months by a group of dedicated professionals from a different school - I refer of course to Royal Birkdale's Tom O'Brien and his team, and to a lesser, though no less important, extent to the spirited team of BIGGA greenkeepers who assisted so ably throughout the Championship. To Tom and his crew, and to all those who by their presence and hard work made the 120th Open the huge success that it was, we offer our sincere thanks. In addition, although they probably don't realise your importance in quite the way that we 'in the know' do, it is proper at this time to extend gratitude - as though it came unsolicited - from the hundreds of thousands of spectators who marvelled at the splendour of it all.

Words alone cannot tell the story of The Open, or of BIGGA's increasingly important part in it all, so let these photographs tell our happy tale of 'one week with BIGGA at The Open Championship.'



Viscount Whitelaw greets Royal Birkdale's Green Chairman, Robert Madison and Head Greenkeeper, Tom O'Brien



He made it! Bill Hatfield admires Baker-Finch's last shot



Unwelcome rainfall? No problem in official BIGGA wet weather outfits

100,000

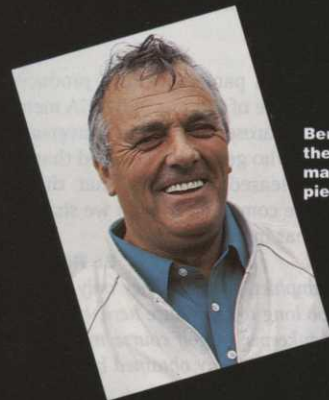


The Open will have special memories for Jim Paton, who was given the iron clubs of 1989 Open Champion, Mark Calcavecchia



Royal Birkdale's greenkeeping team

Ready for action - wet weather style



Bert Cross - the man who made the pieces fit



A time to relax - Roy Kates and Clive Osgood



Tom O'Brien and Walter Woods - two famous greenkeepers



Greenkeepers at the 18th with Ian Baker-Finch, winner of this year's Open

thank-yous



The damage...
...and the repair



Mr and Mrs George Malcolm - The Open is clearly a happy time

Birthday boy, David Golding, passes the leader board for a timely reminder of his particular score



Photographs
by
**DAVID
WHITE**

SCIENCE of the

by Dr RICHARD GIBBS

Soil science is one of those subjects that either interests people or it doesn't, yet if you think about it, most of the problems that are likely to be experienced on a golf course are related in some way with what goes on *under* the turf. Drainage, compaction, turf nutrition and irrigation are all extremely topical areas for discussion and all come under the umbrella of soil science in some form. Sand greens are promoted as the answer to all our problems of poor drainage and playing quality, yet how much detail is used to explain that these greens are also artificial creations for which the physical, chemical and biological characteristics associated with 'traditional' soils simply do not apply.

In short, I believe that many greenkeepers experience only the bad side of soil science, ie. once it has caused a problem. Unfortunately, many will be in the almost permanent position of battling against the undesirable side of soil science (eg. compaction, poor drainage, drought) simply because the increase in traffic over the last few years has put constraints on the soil that did not exist in the past. In contrast, new courses that are currently being built should be constructed with many principles of soil science firmly embedded in the specifications if the project as a whole is to succeed. Therefore the greenkeepers of these new courses theoretically should not experience the same degree of difficulty experienced by greenkeepers of many older courses. I say theoretically because this all hinges on soil science being very much part of the golf education scene.

SOILS AND CONSTRUCTION

In my time as a research scientist and soils consultant and more recently as a turfgrass and soils lecturer at Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture, I am often amazed at how so many principles of soil science continue to be ignored, particularly when the whole approach to construction is tackled from a civil engineering angle. Take for example the photograph opposite. This shows a cross-section of a sand carpet construction where approximately 100mm of medium-fine sand was placed over existing topsoil which has been intensively slit drained. What you should see is a layer of medium-fine sand overlying a blinding layer of coarse sand (which there is), overlying a layer of clean gravel in the slit drain (which there isn't).

What happened was that a layer of soil (marked by the arrow) was pushed over the gravel in the slit drain during construction so that there is now no direct drainage connection. The consequence of this action was a complete failure of the system to remove surface water during the winter period, such that the whole construction had to be re-drained with new sand-gravel slits after only one season of use. This sort of example gives sand constructions (of which the picture is only one type) a bad name.

SAND AND PEAT

Another area that gives sand constructions a bad name happens nearer the surface. When using sand as a construction or maintenance medium, provided that the correct type of sand is used, it is true to assume that problems of poor drainage and aeration can be overcome. However, solving the primary problem of drainage creates other difficulties relating to water storage and nutrition. Adding an organic amendment (usually peat), which helps overcome water and nutrition shortfalls, is regularly carried out and indeed again it is true that an increase in water holding capacity is achieved in classic 'law of diminishing returns' fashion through the addition of peat to sand. However, adding peat to pure sand or even to a sand/soil mix is in my view a misguided horticultural legacy, particularly when the peat is incorporated only in the surface of the construction. Consider the origins of peat – it accumulates in cold, wet, often high up

places where anaerobic conditions prevail and organic matter decomposition is severely retarded – and yet here we are adding the material to a growing medium with no biological activity whatsoever and suddenly expecting the rootzone to drain, to provide water and nutrients, to provide an acceptable level of aeration and to absorb the impact of golfer's feet – all within a few months of being created.

What often happens to the peat is that with time it separates out into a discrete layer within the construction, becomes buried by sequential top-dressings and finally turns into an anaerobic layer impeding both drainage and aeration.

There are those who believe that if the right type of soil is mixed with an appropriate proportion of very carefully specified sand, then this mix has many physical advantages over a sand/peat mix (see Jim Arthur's comments in May 1991 issue of Greenkeeper International). I would generally agree with this view, although I do not hold the view at all that 'fen soil' is the only soil capable of providing this ideal concoction of physical properties, with the use of local top soil being virtually always out of the question for greens constructions. In my view, golf courses should attempt to reflect the nature and properties of their indigenous soils and this should not involve the huge expense of carting large quantities of soil from one end of the country to the other.

ANAEROBIC ROOTZONE

Whilst at Aberystwyth I made a study of a sand construction which had gone anaerobic due to the addition of peat as an organic amendment at the surface. The study showed that the total amount of organic matter in the peat/sand layer (0-20 mm) was very closely related to the redox* potential of the same layer. What was also particularly interesting was that it was possible to show that the amount of roots growing beneath the anaerobic zone decreased the more anaerobic the peat/sand layer became. We are generally quite accustomed to a physical barrier reducing root growth at depth, but a chemical barrier can also have serious consequences. *The lower the redox value, the more anaerobic the soil – it can even become negative.

BLACK LAYER

Furthermore, the same sort of problem can occur with time even when organic matter has not been deliberately added during the construction phase. We are very fortunate at Myerscough to possess some of the oldest constructed sand greens in the country and it is only now that some of the undesirable side effects of certain sand greens are coming to light. Many of you may have come across the dreaded black layer, something which develops particularly in sand constructions as a result of a change in the chemical nature of the rootzone. It may develop in more traditional greens as well, except perhaps we just don't see it.

What is this mysterious black layer? Originally I had assumed that it always represented an anaerobic layer of peat that had become buried by sequential top dressings. Indeed one of the conditions for a black layer to develop is that a source of organic matter must be present to act as food supply for anaerobic bacteria. However, in this particular sand green at Myerscough, which was constructed in 1980, a black layer has developed where the organic matter source comes not from peat but from a natural build-up of organic matter from decaying grass roots and stems, better known to us all as thatch (see photograph on Page 17). This build-up of thatch has occurred under anaerobic conditions for two reasons: first, the green was sown with a creeping bentgrass (a turfgrass still causing much controversy) which is well known to be a voracious thatch producer and it has not been particularly well controlled on this green over the years; second, this sand green is a classic example of where the principles of soil science have been ignored – not, I hasten to add, through the fault of the college staff, but because the manufacturers of this particular system (for which there is a patent) insisted on a certain type of sand, which by today's standards would be totally inappropriate. The result of using this sand has been that the

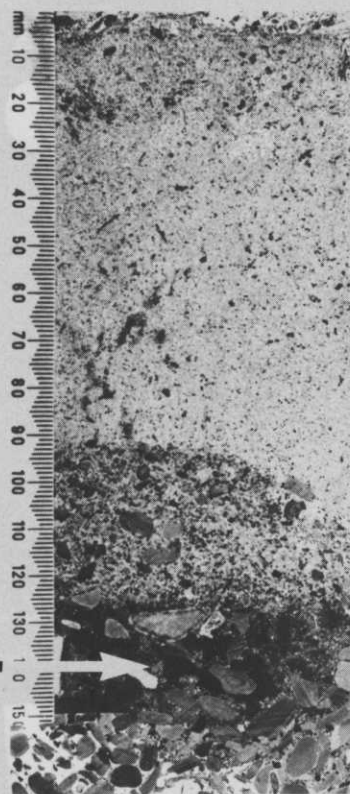


Figure 1: A cross section of a poorly built sand carpet construction. Soil has been pushed over clean gravel in a slit drain beneath the sand carpet (see arrow) destroying the vital drainage connection of the slit drain with the sand carpet

SOIL



A black layer in a pure sand green. This layer has developed because conditions in the green are anaerobic for long periods, due to inappropriate choice of sand and deficiencies in maintenance. This is formed by metallic sulphides (e.g. iron sulphide) which are created under intensely anaerobic conditions by sulphur-reducing bacteria. These intense anaerobic conditions are sufficient to kill turfgrass roots

green continues to hold water in the rootzone despite allowing water to pass freely into the drains.

BLACK LAYER CHEMISTRY

With the help of Dr Bill Adams of the Soil Science Unit, University College of Wales, I have been very interested in examining the chemical nature of the black layer. His preliminary tests have given quite startling results – the black layer has a pH of two units lower than the pH of the original sand and iron sulphide is present, which gives the layer its colour (see below). Iron sulphide is formed from hydrogen sulphide, which is a gas produced under severe and prolonged

anaerobic (reducing) conditions and which is toxic to turfgrass roots. No wonder all the sand falls out when the hole is changed – there are no roots to bind the sand together below a depth of 50mm!

In fact, under these anaerobic conditions much of the iron is present in its reduced ferrous state and this reacts with the hydrogen sulphide to form the black ferrous sulphide. Ferrous iron (which is highly mobile in the soil) can be oxidised fairly easily to ferric hydroxide (essentially rust) which has precipitated out immediately below the black layer where conditions are more aerobic and where there is no concentrated organic matter source for anaerobic conditions to develop. It is quite common to find a thin film of ferric hydroxide lining the holes created by hollow tine corers, since these holes are point sources where air has been introduced into the rootzone. This whole sequence of events, which I have described in very simplistic form, is a process which occurs as a natural part of soil development in wet or marshy soils and is well known to soil scientists. What is interesting is that we have seen the same process occur in a very short time in a constructed soil profile.

DEVELOPMENT OF BLACK LAYER

One reason why the black layer may have developed so quickly may be due to the regular use of ammonium sulphate and iron sulphate, both of which are acidifying fertilisers and which favour chemical reduction in anaerobic soils, in addition to providing sources of soluble iron and sulphur. We need further evidence of the importance of these sources. Certainly, detrimental consequences are not inevitable with their use and at the moment I would not hesitate to continue using both types of fertiliser.

To summarise, there is a complex chemistry occurring beneath the surface of golf greens, including some which we consider to represent the ideal free-draining growing medium. Development of the black layer is an extreme example of deterioration brought about through lack of adequate mechanical maintenance to improve aeration and prevent accumulation of organic residues. Problems in maintenance are often – as at Myerscough – compounded by errors in design specifications. Finally, I would finish by stressing that soil science is important to the greenkeeper and you are in the extremely fortunate and rare position of regularly being able to inspect the soil in your greens every time you change a hole – something which happens in no other sport. Make the most of this opportunity.

● The author, Dr Richard Gibbs, is a Senior Lecturer in Turf and Soil Science at Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture. He acknowledges with gratitude the provision of analytical data on black layer by Dr Bill Adams and the assistance with redox and peat measurements from Dr David Lance of Land Use Consultants, Devon.

Power Force



All SISIS machines are designed, patented and manufactured in Great Britain.



SISIS now offer a range of p.t.o. driven implements for use with suitable compact tractors. The range includes top-dressers, Rotorake, sweeper, aerator, sprayer and seeder. Full details from your SISIS Area Representative or by contacting us at the addresses below.

Ask for a Demonstration!

- 12 Month Warranty
- Choice of Finance Arrangements
- National Spares & Service Network

sisis

SISIS EQUIPMENT (Macclesfield) LTD., Hulley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2LZ. Tel: (0625) 503030 Fax: (0625) 427426
SISIS Centre In Scotland, The Roundel, Middlefield Industrial Estate, Falkirk. FK2 9HG. Tel: (0324) 29635

Serving Groundsmen and Greenkeepers for nearly 60 Years

See us at Demo Area 3 at the IOG

AD
REF
176



Doffing of the cloth cap wasn't for Duncan McGilvray. When he joined Letchworth, he brought with him a 15-point management plan, as DAVID WHITE reports

The First Garden City – Letchworth – was and is the most successful township “planned to ensure the health and happiness, dignity and freedom of its inhabitants.” Unquestionably, it still remains the very best of such ‘dream’ concepts and a near perfect model to this day for civilised town dwellers the world over.

That the good burghers of Letchworth saw old Ebenezer Howard’s vision through to reality is clear at every turn – it really is a bonny place – as also are the results of some pretty clear thinking that began perhaps even before the first dream houses were built in 1904. In that year the professional from West Herts Golf Club, Alfred Tingey, was commissioned to design nine holes on what was then the Manor Park of Letchworth Hall, with a year or so later a somewhat rough and ready course opened for play. Like many such unsophisticated courses of that era, it served an initial purpose and was okay in its way, though according to their first professional, Bert Ashby, who seemingly doubled as a greenkeeper, “the greens were hardly bigger than the tees, the fairways were narrow tracks covered with weeds, and nettles abounded in the rough”.

At some point in 1909, ‘having regard for future development of the course’, £10 was set aside to look into the prospect of planning an extended course and the six times victor of The Open Championship, the near-invincible Harry Vardon, was invited to look the place over. His ‘thumbs-up’ opinion was followed by his own detailed architectural

Call it.

plans to re-design the existing nine and further extend the park to 18 holes – at a cost of £500 – and although the Club only had £64 in the bank, somehow the funds were found and the course laid out to Vardon’s specifications, remaining much the same as Harry saw it to this day.

Those who hold office at the Club seem to have been astute in many of their decisions, not least their choice of head greenkeepers, for in 86 years just six men have held the post, the last and present incumbent being Duncan McGilvray, a young Scot who joined them nearly four years ago.

To learn more of the course and the man, I took time out to play a round with Duncan, taking in the delights of real parkland golf whilst listening to him and absorbing many of his thoughts and ideas. “How was it”, I asked, “that a man celebrating his 38th birthday this very day, comes to be Course Manager of one of Hertfordshire’s most prestigious courses – what path did you take?”

Like many a young Scot before him, Duncan took to greenkeeping straight from school, guided by some of the very best head greenkeepers whilst gaining theoretic knowledge through college tuition. For ten years he remained in or around his birthplace of Edinburgh before moving south to England, where he took work as a head greenkeeper, first for three years on the seaside links of Great Yarmouth and Caister before moving inland to Bramall Park in Cheshire for six years and, just under four years ago, to Letchworth. He was hired as course manager from the start, inheriting a situation which the Club saw as being ‘an awful lot of problems on the course’ and which no one on committee had the skill or knowledge to effectively oversee. A man to manage totally was their brief. The idea of an old style doffing of the cloth cap and grubby overalls image was not part of Duncan’s make-up and he straightaway presented the Club with a 15 point management plan – culled over many years – which clearly impressed both the committee and John Campbell, who sat in at his initial interview.

Just as Duncan was impressed by the Club, who had made a radical decision about that time to dispense with a green committee, so were they impressed with him. They needed someone to take total control and they saw him as their man. There is just one committee member with whom Duncan negotiates, a green convener or course liaison officer, who having spent one year under the previous convener, learning the ropes so to speak, will hold office for five years. He reports to the management committee on course matters, but as Duncan was pleased to point out, no policy decision made previously can be changed. Committees come and go but policy once decided continues, and Duncan’s number one point of his 15 point plan was to take an active

TEAMWORK

role in the formulation of such policy.

From the very onset the Club was behind him all the way, with a committee stalwart, Brian Hodder, arranging for the local 'Citizen' newspaper to print photos of Duncan and his course and introduce him to the golfing community. Soon a Club newsletter featured the new incumbent and within his first year he presented a detailed course discussion evening – now an annual feature – in which he presented to over 200 members his thinking behind course planning and maintenance. Duncan smiled as he recalled the title of that first talk, "The Way Forward", which can now rightfully be seen as the forerunner of the R&A document which was launched in 1989. Did they, one wonders, hear of the Letchworth initiative beforehand?

Talking of the course, his first and main aim was to reclaim indigenous grasses and eradicate thatch and *Poa annua*, whilst at the same time managing the course in such a way as to not alienate either his members or visitors while the change was taking place. Judging by the deliciously true hand-mown greens, he's winning that particular war and his members must be well pleased. His other primary aim, an admirable one, is to protect the environment and to that end he is a founder member of the School of Minimal Use of Pesticides and Herbicides. He's a confirmed admirer of Jim Arthur and believes in his doctrines.

"What are you most proud of?" I asked, and without hesitation he cited the achievements attained with his team. 'We've gone from their working in often confused and opposing directions into a tight and highly motivated group, spending over 70 per cent of our working time actually on the playing surfaces and with each man knowing full well the reasons behind every move we take. I've brought them forward to a point where if anything should happen to me my second in command could take over and each man could move up a place. The Club would not be in a panic situation, something that isn't always the case at some Clubs I could mention, and I claim training as the reason, the effective management of people'.

I was equally impressed to find work well under way on an independent water source – a borehole – which is part of the long-term management plan and nearing completion. The borehole is 185 feet deep and is being installed with an assured yield test of 5,000 gallons an hour, far more than the Club will ever need but nevertheless guaranteeing them a tested and no doubt comforting water source for the

'The Club is not run as a business but it is run in a totally business-like manner – and I'm proud to play a part in that business team'

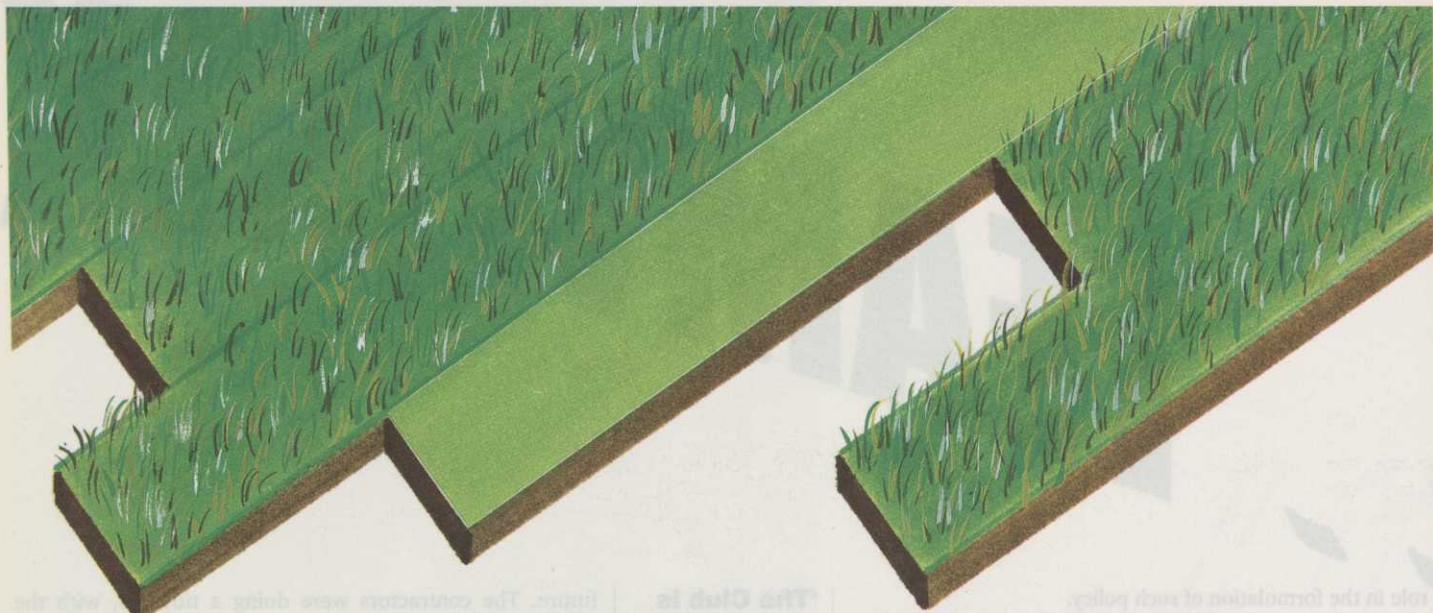
future. The contractors were doing a tidy job, with the accent yet again on minimal disturbance to players. Duncan's throwaway line – "all down to forward planning some three years ago" – appeared matter of fact, almost casual, – but I sensed nevertheless an unrestrained feeling of pride in his comment.

Duncan is a keen golfer and succeeded in taking me to the cleaners for a modest wager, his belief being that without access and knowledge of the game – especially on home territory – it was less than easy to discuss any finer points of the course. Having finished our round I warmed still further to this very likeable personality when he confided in me that he held his employers in high regard. 'The Club is not run as a business', he asserted, 'but it is run in a totally business-like manner, and I'm proud to play a part in that business team'. I formed the view that his Club might well share that same pride in him.



Above: The ninth fairway, with Letchworth Hall, now an hotel, in the background

Left: Attention to one of the 74 bunkers



THE LEADERS



See us on Stand
B62-64 at the IOG

STREAKS AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION

The efficiency of today's highly engineered lawn mowers and quality of cut can only be maintained with correct and accurate grinding of their cylinders and blades.

The 'Leader' range of grinders not only achieves this but offers many features unequalled on any other machine, making them the ultimate in lawn mower grinders.

At the heart of a 'Leader' is a solid free standing frame with a cast iron bed and 2" precision ground guide rails that ensures an accuracy of less than 0.005" in 30 inch in straightness, whether grinding insitu or out of frame.

Coupled with this, great emphasis has been placed upon operator safety with a self contained coolant

system, fully enclosed canopy that reduces noise and dust levels to a minimum and safety cut out devices that allow the operator to leave the machine whilst on automatic operation with absolute confidence.

For a demonstration and further details contact:— Linda Bottomley

**S U P R E M E
M O W I N G**

Wet Moor Lane, Wath-Upon-Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7LR. Tel: (0709) 873436 Fax: (0709) 878005

A Ransomes PLC Company

**IOG Show
Peterborough**

The **GREATEST SHOW ON TURF**



The show that matters

It outgrew three sites before being established at the East of England Showground: now the IOG's 45th Sports and Leisure World Trade Exhibition, on September 3rd, 4th, 5th, promises the lot.

by **BILL MILLS** and **DAVID WHITE**

There are still a few ill-informed people who believe that the game of golf originated in the Netherlands, from whence it was exported to Scotland. A likely story!

Certainly, the game was sufficiently well established in Scotland in the 15th century to be prohibited by the authorities, on the grounds that it interfered with the practice of archery. The ban, however, was not universal because it is recorded that James IV of Scotland was at this time having his golf clubs made by a bow-maker from Perth. Perhaps he sailed across to Holland for his round?

Whatever the origins, there is no doubt that the Scots – pushing out the frontiers of civilisation – took the game with them, which is why golf is now the most widely-played game in the world. However, in the rest of the UK, golf was mostly the preserve of the rich and leisured, remaining such until the great social changes which followed World War II opened the game to a much wider and enthusiast sector of the public.

It is ironic that golf was prohibited in Scotland during the 15th century because it clashed with archery practice and the defence of the realm, for some 500 years on the → 22



Two-hectare demonstration site will feature the latest in turf technology

In the field of early Dutch golf, and that means early golf no matter how nationalistic Scots may jib, the ultimate authority was the noted Dutch historian Steven van Hengel. Like a good detective he proved conclusively - dismissing folklore and hearsay - that golf was first played in Holland as early as 1297. The old saw about Scottish shepherds shooting pebbles into rabbit scrapes is romantic but is dismissed, again with evidence, by proving that this custom began in Western Germany in 1338. Well into the 17th century there was a massive export of balls from Holland to Scotland. On behalf of golf historians everywhere, your editor rests his case.

21 ➤ talk now is of converting parts of some surplus Ministry of Defence training grounds into golf courses!

The Institute of Groundsmanship, or the National Association as it was then, held its first exhibition of sportsground machinery and materials in 1938. This was so successful that a second and bigger exhibition was planned for September 1939. In the event, the little fracas started by Adolph Hitler in September of that year meant that exhibition number two was not held until 1947. By then many greenkeepers and groundsmen had laid down their arms and picked up the tools of their trade once more, but it was a changed world for them as well.

Wartime research and development had produced engines, both petrol and diesel, which were more efficient and which had an improved power:size ratio. Research by ICI into increased agricultural crop yields had a spin-off in the discovery of weed-killers which were selective on either monocots or dicots. The story of DDT and the chlorinated hydro-carbons was another that emerged but has been told so often that it does not require further airing here. Suffice to say that they were efficient products of their time and it was to be many years before the potential dangers in their use were recognised.

The study of land drainage was becoming more of a science than an art, although there was - and still is - the touch of the artist in a well-laid system. The importance of correct sands in the construction and maintenance of greens, tees and bunkers was receiving critical attention

and, all in all, a whole new world of technology was opening up.

As more new and proven products became available so also did the IOG exhibitions expand to accommodate them. This is the reason the show has outgrown three sites and is now established at the East of England Showground, Peterborough, where there is room for expansion well into the 21st Century. The 45th Sports and Leisure World Trade Exhibition, held on September 3rd, 4th and 5th, will be a comprehensive selection of the best (and safest) machinery, fertilisers, herbicides, pesticides, soils, sands and seeds for construction and maintenance, used by professionals.

On the two-hectare demonstration site, laser-controlled trenchers and graders, a variety of earth-moving, cultivating and turf conditioning machinery, plus the latest in spraying and irrigation equipment, will be seen in continuous operation under practical working conditions.

Assembled in one area are the cream of the horticultural colleges and advisory services, where information regarding training courses and advice on turf-related problems will be readily available.

All this, and much more, on show at what has been described as - *the greatest show on turf*.

● The author, Bill Mills, is a life member of the Institute of Groundsmanship and a past editor of 'The Groundsman'.

IOG Show Peterborough
The GREATEST SHOW ON TURF

Built by the Swiss...

Now there's a new multi purpose machine for all year round groundscare - the Bucher Multi. Built by the Swiss for all round adaptability, the Multi can take on cylinder, rotary or flail mowers for fast productive cutting in summer, or a front brush, or snow blade for cleaning up in winter.

Now, when you're looking for a machine that works like clockwork all year round, take a good look at the Bucher Multi - there's no machine more adaptable to your demands for all year round productivity and time saving potential.

See us on Stands K14-16 at the IOG



BUCHER



To: Bucher Marketing, P.O. Box 344, Malmesbury, Wiltshire SN16 0QD, G18.9T

Name _____

Job Function _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Please send me further details on the Bucher Multi

..works like clockwork.

AD REF 223

'Exciting newcomers' from Vitax

Two exciting newcomers into the **VITAX SPORT AMENITY** range will be shown at IOG.

Vitax Gro-Cover is a clear microperforated polythene fabric that provides an ideal protected growing environment. For grass seed establishment it gives between 4-7 days earlier germination plus greater uniformity of growth. It gives greater protection against birds, wind and washaway and enables seed germination in problem areas.

Vitax Weedblock is a highly porous landscape mulch fabric allowing maximum air and water movement to the soil, it is lightweight, easy to cut and gives dramatic reductions in site maintenance costs, eliminating herbicide maintenance treatments and reducing amounts of mulch material used.

Prototype marking machine unveiled

After months of research, design and testing, **SUPATURF PRODUCTS LTD** will be unveiling their carefully guarded prototype of a new Top Line marking machine.

This will be alongside their other new additions, including the electric pump unit which can be fitted to an existing standard Top Line machine to automatically compress the air in the tank to the correct level. As more wetting agents come onto the market, Supaturf will again be challenging their effectiveness against their own Aqua-Gro.

Also shown will be a new adaptor for the Aqua-Gro Advantage, the system for applying Aqua-Gro wetting agent through a hose pipe. This fits into an applicator to facilitate a fast, secure connection to all main hose pipe fittings.

New concept for sportsturf

CAMBRIDGE ASSOCIATES

are unveiling Geoffrey Davidson's totally new concept which is of major significance for sportsturf. Dual Plane Oscillation is a technique with a number of applications: 1) Low cost sand slitting - one rapid pass of the machine cuts the slit, excavates the



Dual Plane Oscillation

soil and very tightly packs in the sand. Typical would be a width of 30mm, depth 300mm, and both can be greater or smaller. 2) Profound deep fissuring down to a depth of 450mm with horizontally oscillating wings on a vertically oscillating blade. 3) Wide warning tape simultaneously laid horizontally above deeper cable during installation by this trenchless technique.

Faster Veemo scarifier on show

SISIS will exhibit for the first time a hydraulic fully-mounted, triple version of their renowned Veemo scarifier. Close coupled to the tractor (27hp+), the fully floating units snugly follow ground contours and produce a high work rate at speeds up to 6mph - faster than comparable machines. The three 30" units produce an overall 7'6" → 24

THE SS100... FIRST ON THE GREEN

IT GRADES... IT SHREDS... IT BLENDS...

Now, from GRADEALL comes a new concept in greenkeeping. A unique combination of blending, shredding and grading in a single unit that gives you:

*MAXIMUM MOBILITY

*HIGH PERFORMANCE RELIABILITY

*MAXIMUM TONNAGE OF QUALITY TOP DRESSING

*MINIMUM EFFORT

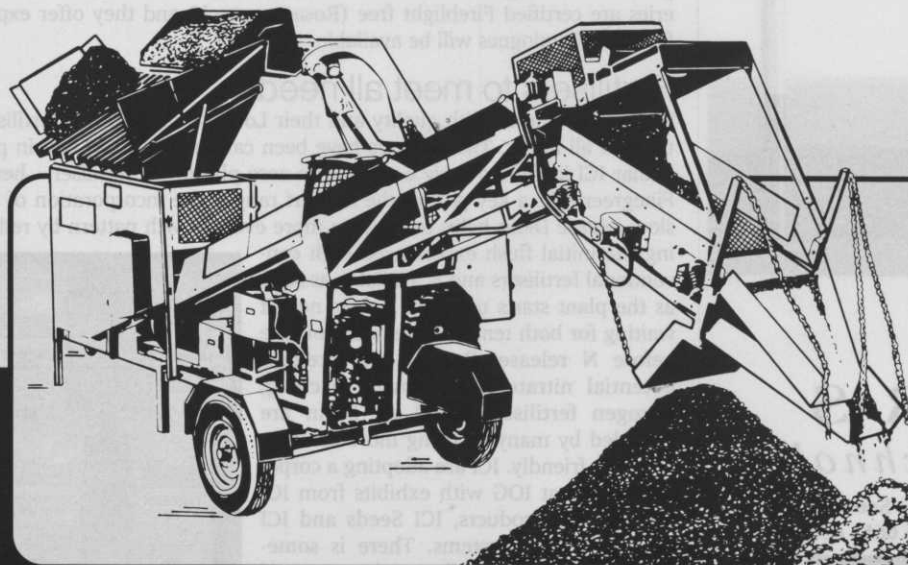
The SS100 performs aggressively on even the poorest quality damp

soil with stones, shrubs and sods producing high quality loose and manageable soil. In fact, the SS100 turns tough, lumpy organic humus into pure, workable compost.

From cricket tables, to bowling greens, to golf greens and fairways... indeed any turf area... you'll benefit from the SS100's unique capabilities. For Hire. For Sale. For Service.

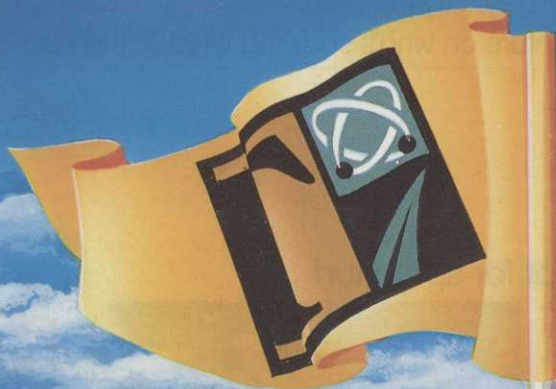
CALL US...

if you want to make the GRADE!



GradeAll International Ltd.,
9 Furlough Road, Dungannon,
Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland,
Tel. (08687) 40484
Fax. (08687) 48823

SEE US ON STAND NO. G50 AND 51 AT THE IOG SHOW



THE ULTIMATE PLAYING SURFACE *par none!*

Whether you're constructing a new green, or repairing an old one, the final surface must be the same... pure, true and firm. And there's no better start than laying GREEN KING turf from Tillers.

That's because GREEN KING is grown using the best possible varieties of fescue and bent - Bardot, Sefton, Center and Oriflamme. Varieties that have been bred to survive under close mowing. Compact, dense and fine leaved.



GREEN KING

And because GREEN KING is grown on sand you'll never get water standing on your greens. All designed to keep the members on the course, and not on your back.

Ask about our tees turf, too, by calling free on our Adviceline 0800 591666.



TILLERS

pioneers in turf technology

Tillers Turf Company Ltd., Castlethorpe, Brigg, South Humberside DN20 9LG. Telephone: 0652 650555. Fax: 0652 650064.

See us on
Stands H12 and 24
at the IOG



The Veemo scarifier

23 ➤ cutting width and the contra-rotating blades are quick-release and double-ended for optimum wear. A single depth setting screw on each unit gives a wide range of adjustment to remove varying degrees of thatch. Also new is the SISIS Pneumatec Work Table, designed to assist in the repair of machinery, compact tractors and ATVs and capable of handling up to 1000lbs with ease. Four models will be on display.

New class of triplex Greensmower

TORO will be exhibiting an exciting and comprehensive range of commercial machinery at Peterborough this year. Including the lightweight Fairway mower with its 4WD option, the popular Reelmaster 223-D now provides additional traction for extreme fairway mowing. Toro will also introduce a new class of triplex Greensmower - the Greensmaster 3100. Lightest in its class, it offers precise power steering and superior quality cut. The highly regarded Reelmaster 216-D, now powered by diesel, offers longer life and easier maintenance and for large scale grass cutting, Toro's Reelmaster 335-D now has a choice of reels.

Quality semi-mature trees

For quality rootballed semi-mature trees, both coniferous and deciduous, **BELLWOOD NURSERIES** of Penicuik, Midlothian, suggest a call to their stands to discuss requirements. From their nurseries in the Strathmore Valley in Scotland, all sizes from budding rootstocks to semi-mature sizes are supplied and at present they have over 200 acres under production, grown to the highest standards of horticultural husbandry. Their nurseries are certified Fireblight free (Rosacass stock) and they offer export facilities. Catalogues will be available.

Fertilisers to meet all needs

ICI is synonymous with quality and their Longlife range offers fertilisers to meet all needs. The analyses have been carefully selected and in particular ICI identified early a need for a zero phosphate fertiliser - hence Finegreen NK, a key part of the fineturf range. The incorporation of the slow release Didin helps to create a more even growth pattern by reducing the initial flush experienced with conventional fertilisers and is available as soon as the plant starts to grow. It does not sit waiting for both temperature and moisture before N release. Because they reduce potential nitrate loss through leaching, nitrogen fertilisers based on Didin are regarded by many as being more environmentally friendly. ICI are adopting a corporate image at IOG with exhibits from ICI Professional Products, ICI Seeds and ICI Advanced Turf Systems. There is something of interest for all greenkeepers and we understand you may have some fun as well!



The ICI Longlife range



See us on Stand M45-60
at the IOG Show

I R O N S

Beaver TM708. The legendary 7-gang hydraulic mower has a huge 16ft cut to mow fairways in championship time. Fully floating 8" or fixed 10" cylinder heads, with a choice of blade configurations and rollers, follow the fairway contours to leave a superb finish.



W O O D S

Where the fairways stop, the Beaver T12 starts. With its 74" cut, hydrostatic transmission, low centre of gravity and 7" cylinders with 4 or 7 blade option, it's ideal for mowing around tees, surrounds, bunkers and fences.

HAYTER BEAVER
GRASS PARTNERS

HAYTERS PLC, SPELLBROOK
BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS. CM23 4BU
TEL: BISHOP'S STORTFORD (0279) 723444

AD
REF
90

CORE!

WHAT A MACHINE



Multi-Core TM 1000



Multi-Core Contractor



Multi-Core Green Keeper

CORE DOWN TO NEW DEPTHS WITH

MULTI-CORE

- Durable – manufactured from heavy materials
- Low maintenance – few moving parts to go wrong
- No grease points
- High output – up to 1.5 acres per hour (TM 1500)
- Deep coring – down to 5"
- Versatile – choice of tine heads
- Unique mini-tine – frequent use helps control dry patch
- Very precise hole pattern – up to 1174 per sq. metre

**HIRE OR BUY FROM OUR
NATIONWIDE DEALER NETWORK**

NEW 1.5 METRE TRACTOR MOUNTED MODEL AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER

MULTI-CORE EUROPE

Halfway Bridge, Petworth, West Sussex GU28 9BP

Tel/Fax: 07985 535

CALL FOR A DEMO TODAY

AD
REF
329



**D.W.FROST
(WHOLESALE
NURSERIES)
LTD.**

FOSSEWAY NURSERIES,
CAR COLSTON, BINGHAM,
NOTTS NG13 8JA

SUPPLIERS TO GOLF CLUBS,
LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS
AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

GROWERS OF TOP QUALITY
CONTAINER AND FIELD GROWN
NURSERY STOCK

FOR FURTHER HELP AND
INFORMATION CONTACT

**DAVID FROST
or WALTER CLARK
on EAST BRIDGFORD
(0949) 20445/20154 or
FAX 0949 21154**

See us on Stands G28 and 29 at the IOG

AD
REF
192

Pattison



**Manufacturers & Suppliers of
Golf Course and Driving Range Equipment.**

Practice Mats to Ball Collectors.

Hole Cups to Tee Markers.

The Complete Range

Send for Catalogue

PATTISSON & CO LTD

342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds LU4 8NU

Tel: 0582 597262. Fax: 0582 505241

See us on Stands D25, 26 and 44 at the I.O.G.

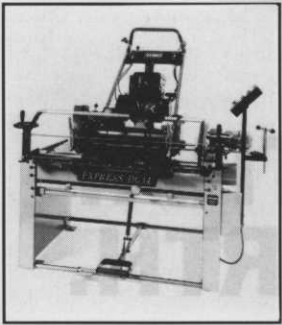
AD
REF
35

More irrigation innovation

WATERMATION will have on display their large and ever increasing range of sprinklers and controllers for sportsturf and landscape irrigation, with most of the equipment made in England by Watermation themselves. Always to the front when it comes to innovation in irrigation equipment, a visit to the Watermation stand (M30-31) is a must this year in order to see their new breakthrough in control, which Director Eileen Hawthorn assures us will make the greenkeeper's life very much easier, something we all applaud!

Grinding without a strip-down

ATTERTON AND ELLIS will hone in on your attention whilst demonstrating the sharpening characteristics of their machines, capable of handling all sizes of cylinders and bottom blades. The company's Express Dual cylinder grinding machine (pictured) is capable of both in-situ or plain cylinder grinding on a wide range of lawnmowers. When in-situ, the grinding cycle takes place without the usual strip-down, as the complete mower is located centrally on the grinder and locked into place. Separate cylinder grinding may also be undertaken when busy periods are over and the mower requires a full service. Their full range will be on working display, so sharpen up and make a visit!



Cost-effective tree moving

RUSKINS, specialists in tree moving, will display two new machines; the first being 'Eager Beaver', a versatile machine that combines the function of a tree spade, forklift and crane to provide a quick, efficient service to golf courses where large areas have to be covered and access is often difficult. Second is a combination of truck, tree mover and lorry loader. trees can be lifted, rootballed, loaded and transported by a single operator. With these new machines Ruskins aim to offer a tree moving service that will be more efficient, practical and cost-effective than anything available hitherto.



Eager Beaver Tree Spade

Largest turf grower's local service

ROLAWN is the only national turf company with a local service providing cultivated turf in any quantity direct to the end-user from its own network of depots. Customers may collect or have turf delivered, frequently within 24 hours of ordering, and they proudly boast a virtually uninterrupted turf supply throughout the year, with most of their land now under irrigation. With production approaching 3,000 acres, they are the largest European turf grower, achieving notable success in exporting greens turf to Ireland, and have a partnership agreement with a French turf grower. Rolawn ➔ 29

LET US GIVE YOU THE EDGE THESE CLUBS ALREADY HAVE IT!

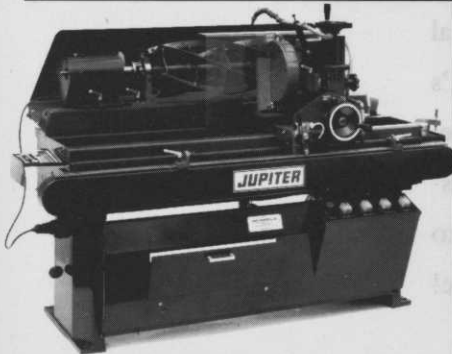
★ See us on covered stand one bays 25 and 26 at the IOG

- Carnoustie Golf Links
- Cawdor Golf Club
- Collingtree Leisure
- Crompton & Royton Golf Club
- Delapre Golf Complex
- Ely City Golf Club

- Gleneagles Hotel
- Goring & Streetley
- Hags Castle Club
- Kinross (Green Hotel)
- Leek Golf Club
- Lingfield Park

- Massereene Golf Club
- Mere Golf & Country Club
- Muirfield (Gullane) Golf Club
- Ormonde Fields Golf Club
- Ponteland Golf Club
- Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club

- Royal Dornoch Golf Club
- Royal Liverpool Golf Club
- Rye Golf Club
- Slaley Hall G&C Club
- Washington Moat house
- Whitecraigs Golf Club



42" capacity Mower Cylinder and Bottom Blade Grinding Machine. A truly 'precision' grinder, built to last half a century. Used and preferred by Professionals.

SATISFIED CUSTOMERS

"The Juno is an essential piece of equipment for any golf course workshop." Mr. Alistair Connel, Course Manager, Cawder Golf Club.

"It is the best piece of machinery this course has ever invested in, a fine machine that I would recommend to anyone." Mr. John Bashford, Head Greenkeeper of the Green Hotel Golf Course, The Kinross Estate.

"A quality machine that gives a superb finish to our cylinders, and saves money." Mr. Derek Green, Head Greenkeeper of Royal Liverpool Golf Club.



The NEW JUNO 36" capacity Cylinder and Bottom Blade Grinder will accommodate every make and type of Professional and Domestic cutting cylinders and soleplates. Simple to operate, fast changeover from cylinder to bottom blade grinding.



ERIC HUNTER GRINDERS LTD

HOBSON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, BURNOPFIELD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE16 6EB. TEL: (0207) 70316 FAX: (0207) 70312

See us on Stands K11-13
at the IOG Show



A GREEN MACHINE THAT DOESN'T COST THE EARTH.

Put other greens mowers alongside a Lesco and you'll notice the difference. Ours is simple in design, sophisticated in performance and built with that American expertise. Yet it has no fancy bodywork, no hard-to-get-at mechanics. So what you see, is what you get. That makes it the best value professional greens mower on the market today. There's a choice of diesel or petrol power and all the optional extras you'd expect from one of the world's leading manufacturers. Best of all is the price. It's as low as we can get without compromising on quality and you'll find that a contrast to some other green mowers we could name! Call now for your local dealer details.

LESCO
FROM CDC

Quality doesn't always cost the earth

CDC Group plc, Chapel Works, Waldringfield, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4PT. Telephone: 0473 36791



27 sold to nearly 500 Clubs in 1990 and say that 1991 looks even better.

Clubs supplied include Ballyunion, Woburn, Fulford and Turnberry. Pictured: Rolawn turf is grown on the best sandy soil for rapid re-establishment.

Advanced Top Dressers

New from **CHARTERHOUSE** will be their range of advanced Top Dressers, machines that incorporate all aspects of the Charterhouse robust design and high work rate and engineered to meet every need, from light top dressing to applying 400 tonnes in one day. Built to last and perform well, Charterhouse realise that speed and reliability are of the essence in these cost effective times.

Kubota to reveal new model

The wraps come off a brand new tractor by **KUBOTA** for the first time at IOG, with curiosity eating at the soul of journalists denied a sneak preview. With secrecy the Kubota watchword, one can expect the new model to be something quite exceptional and our curiosity knows no bounds. Also new will be a range of mowers and grass collectors which have been developed to meet the needs of the professional greenkeeper as well as local authority markets and the landscaping industry. The existing fleet of ride-on mowers, compact tractors, generators, tillers, brushcutters and hedge trimmers will also feature, the whole promising to be a veritable Kubota jamboree.

Tillers promise superior surface

TILLERS TURF LIMITED, one of the country's leading growers of top-quality turf, supply three grades: Green King for golf greens, Lawn King for lawns and golf tees, and Arena for landscaping and soccer pitches. All Tiller turf is grown on sandy soil with excellent drainage properties. Of particular interest to the golf industry will be Fibreturf, a natural sport turf system that combines the durability and easy maintenance of artificial playing surfaces with the playability of natural turf. Already proven at Sunningdale, the system comprises a sand rootzone, 3-4" thick and reinforced with artificial fibres, which is seeded or turfed. The result is a superior playing surface that drains freely and does not break up to produce divoting and erosion under heavy use. Maintenance can be cut by 50% or more compared with conventional sand/soil constructions.



Tim Fell, Tillers MD, and Sunningdale Course Manager, Lawson Bingham, discuss the merits of Fibreturf

Additions to Hayter Beaver range

HAYTER BEAVER will be occupying one of the largest stands, where visitors will see a number of exciting new additions in the Hayter Beaver Livery. Secrecy is the watchword at IOG this year and the company's most impressive developments are still closely guarded and will not be unveiled before the show. Following the outstanding success of the Hayter Murray 10/30 garden tractor, the 18/46 will be seen for the first time in the UK. This up-market machine is fitted with a Briggs and Stratton twin cylinder I/C ➔ 30



WELCOME TO A WORLD WHERE WORMS AND INSECTS ARE LESS OF A PEST.

CROSSFIRE and **CASTAWAY PLUS** give effective, economical control of most turf pest problems.

CROSSFIRE is a broad-spectrum insecticide for use where worm control is not needed. It gives specific and economical control of leather jackets and frit fly and helps in the establishment of newly sown turf areas.

CASTAWAY PLUS selectively controls casting worms yet leaves many non-casting species unharmed. It's unique liquid formulation is extremely easy to use.

Castaway Plus is also available in CDA formulation. No water to add, no mixing, no handling of chemical - the product can be applied through most CDA lances with a droplet size of 200-300 microns.

See us on Stand B41-44
at the IOG Show

RHÔNE-POULENC

Environmental Products, Regent House, Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4TZ. Telephone 0277 261414

CROSSFIRE CONTAINS CHLORPYRIFOS. CASTAWAY PLUS CONTAINS THIOPHANATE METHYL AND LINDANE
READ THE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY: USE PESTICIDES SAFELY.

ALLETT MOWERS LTD



A CLOSE SHAVE

If you're looking for a fine cut mower for golf greens, bowling greens or cricket wickets, then you need look no further than the Allett Super Shaver. The Super Shaver can cut to within 1/16" and give a superb finish with 146 cuts per yard. All rollers are ground for absolute precision and the mower is powered by a Robin engine, which runs on lead free petrol.

For further details please contact:

ALLETT MOWERS LTD

UNIT 60, BIRKITT ROAD, EARLSTREES INDUSTRIAL
ESTATE, CORBY, NORTHANTS, NN17 2DT.
TEL: CORBY (0536) 68950. FAX: (0536) 201856.

See us on Stands L32 and 33 at the I.O.G.

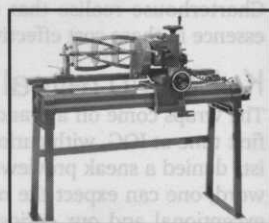
29 → engine and has a 46" cutting deck. Fitted with a heavy-duty five speed transaxle, the 18/46 can accommodate most grass conditions.

Mowers for professionals

ALLETT MOWERS will be exhibiting their range of commercial cylinder and rotary mowers, all solidly built, robust and designed specifically for the professional user. Of particular interest to golf Clubs is the Allett Super Shaver. This 20" greens mower is second to none and can incorporate the Allett True Roll Grooming system, consisting of a power driven revolving brush which lifts lateral runners allowing them to be cut cleanly. Fully adjustable, the brush also brushes the front roller whilst a revolving brush is also fitted to the rear roller, keeping it clean at all times.

Grinding effectiveness on show

There will be no grinding to a halt if **ERIC HUNTER GRINDERS** have their way, for as established manufacturers of quality mower grinding machines, they will be demonstrating the effectiveness of their special methods of grinding reels and bed-knives. Their 36" capacity Juno machine, pictured, already installed in a number of workshops, grinds 'relief' angles on each blade, thereby cutting down 'drag' with the bedknife. Advantages include longer bedknife life, lower fuels costs, increased cutting efficiency and longer intervals between overhauls. Eric Hunter will gladly demonstrate the effectiveness of this fine machine, priced at under £4,000 for the base model.



A cure for litter, leaves and debris

TURFMECH will be exhibiting the range of heavy duty Tuff-Vac trailer vacuum machinery and high capacity tractor mounted blowers. The Tuff-Vac vacuums are the most cost-effective way of clearing large area sites of debris, swallowing litter, leaves, grass clippings, cans etc, in 5 or 8 feet suction widths and containing them in huge capacity hoppers until ready for unloading via a chain and slat floor. Also on display for the first time in the UK will be a Turfmec range of innovative modification units for Turf harvesting equipment.

End in sight for smelly ponds

Worth a special visit, especially with the interest shown in winter water storage on golf courses (see July issue), **LAKE AID SYSTEMS (EUROPE) LTD** will be showing a range of energy efficient aerator/mixers – either wind powered, electric or computer controlled combinations – which are being used with increased regularity to improve water quality in reservoirs and irrigation ponds. The day of the smelly pond is a thing of the past with the use of the unique Lake Aid Systems deep/mix capability.

Rigby Taylor's 'invaluable' new product

Never outdone, our old friends **RIGBY TAYLOR** also introduce a brand new product – IOG seems famous as a launching pad – which they claim will prove invaluable in our industry. Mascot Absorb 500, a flowable charcoal de-activator can be used on hydraulic fluid, petroleum and pesticide spills. Available in 10 litre containers, it is an assurance against spills and over-application of pesticides. Mascot Absorb 500 can be applied to turf areas that have been herbicide treated, whenever re-seeding is needed earlier than planned, and when early germination is needed Absorb 500 enhances that germination. It is also suitable for sprayer cleaning and aerates and corrects sour soil conditions. Its unique liquid formulation allows easier handling and application.

A Walkover for Allen Power Equipment

Alongside their recently acquired range of Walkover Sprayers, **ALLEN POWER EQUIPMENT** will show the complete Walkover range, together with the recently introduced 18" 218Si hover mower, powered by a 120cc Suzuki engine. These, together with Komatsu hedge and brushcutters, Allen Goblin shredders and the ever popular National range of triples, including the 60" Turf Trooper, form the mainstay. But along with the established comes yet another new item, pride of place being → 31



The Allen 218Si mower

Advances in turf preparation

Pre-turfing preparation times are being slashed with the introduction of the new service by **LAWN TECH** that will take advantage of a major advance in such preparation. The specialist operation is being established to support the company's installation teams, where contractors and others are looking for speed with significant cost benefits. The service is being launched at IOG when the wraps come off a new machine, joining a family of Lawn Tech equipment that is helping them change the nature of the industry – as well as the landscape. Earlier innovations include the TIM750 machine – the first of its kind – able to lay continuous lengths of turf up to 30m long from an automated spool.



The TIM750 Turf Installation Machine

American import a 'great success'

CDC GROUP have now completed one year importing Lesco from the USA. The 300 Greensmower has been a great success, with quality of cut combined with simplicity impressing on demonstrations. Greenkeepers have complimented on the ease of maintenance and the common sense of its design. CDC have proved that these machines can be competitively priced, the 300 coming in diesel or petrol or, as in deliveries to Ireland, even converted to LPG. The 500 is a lightweight fairway mower and is a realistic alternative to similar higher-priced equipment. It is based on the ➔ 35

reserved for the Mustang ATM All Terrain Mower. Redesigned from the Tracer ride-on, the Mustang is a 42" ride-on, go-anywhere, machine powered by a Briggs and Stratton 16 hp Vanguard engine. Featuring ATV tyres and hydrostatic transmission, it will be right at home on slopes and softer ground.

Famous names' complete range

Two famous names, **RANSOMES** and **CUSHMAN**, will feature prominently on Ransomes stand, for Ransomes acquisition of the Cushman Ryan group has further transformed the company from a grass cutting machinery specialist into the world's leading manufacturer of equipment for all aspects of turf care. Ransomes now offer a complete range, from pedestrian and ride-on mowers to the Cushman multi-purpose Turf Truckster and Ryan aerators, power rakes and overseeders. Also shown will be equipment from Ransomes recently acquired company, Morel, which produces a range of leaf and refuse sweepers. As is always the case, Ransomes will also take the opportunity to launch new products at this year's IOG.



The 4 wheel drive 350D which will be on show at IOG

The finest topdressing and root zone mix



See us on stand 13 row PCS 2

make the finest greens

When it comes to construction and maintenance of golf and bowling greens, Fairfield have the finest materials to help you achieve the finest finish.

Use Fairfield root zone mix to construct your greens and a regular application of Fairfield topdressing to maintain them... and you'll have the finest greens around.

For full specifications send the coupon for our FREE full colour turf selector or call us today on (06794) 731.

FAIRFIELD TURF

Fairfield Turf, Fairfield Court.
Brookland, Romney Marsh, Kent. TN29 9RX

Please send me my turf selector

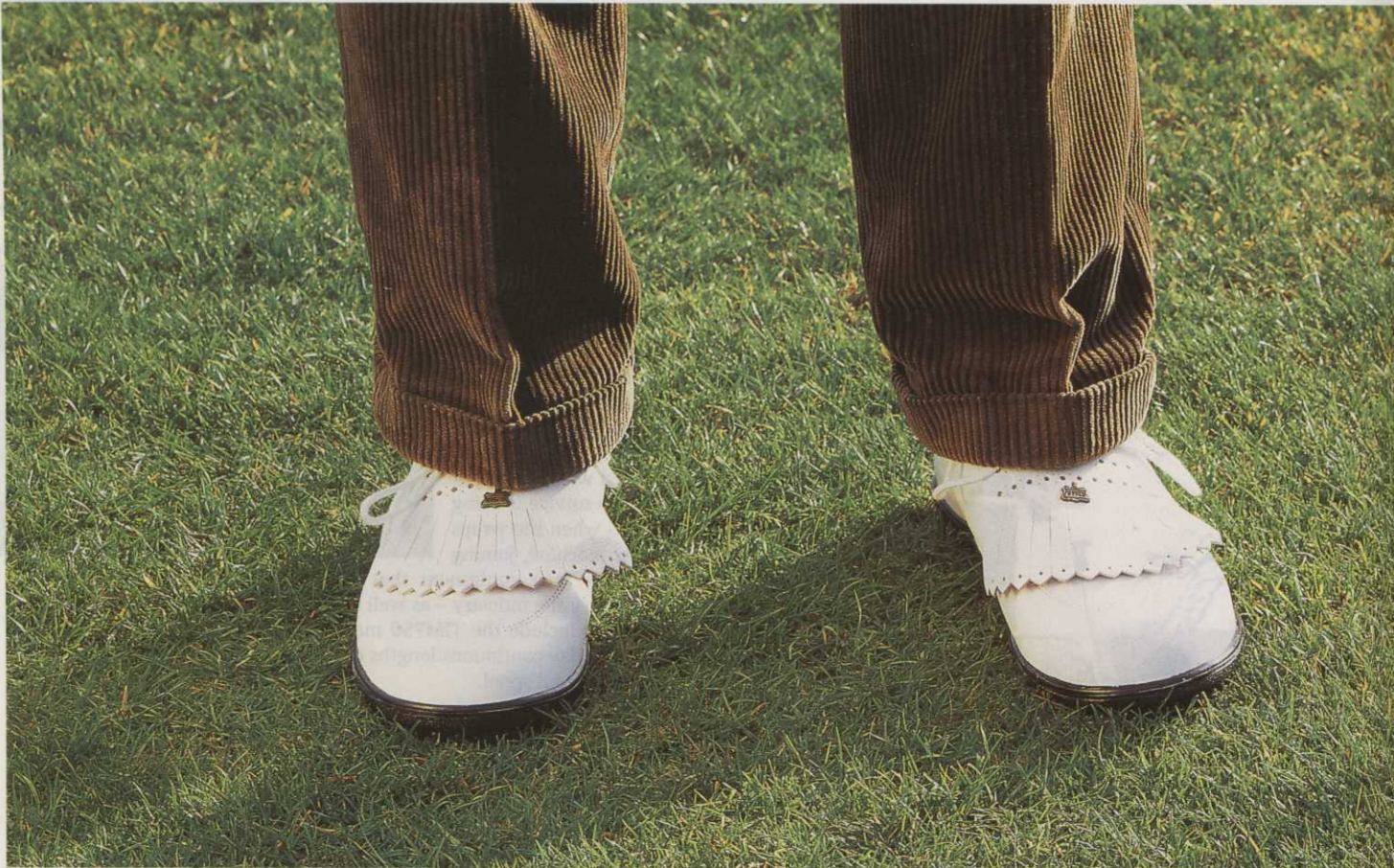
Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel _____





ONE POWER UNIT.



▲ It's an aerator...

◀ a 3 or 4-wheel carrier...

The Ransomes-Cushman Turf Truckster is simply the most versatile vehicle ever seen on a golf course.

Available in 3 or 4-wheel versions, it's built tough like a

truck. But a truck that thinks it's a fleet.

That rugged chassis will accept a dozen different turf care attachments. And most of them can be changed in minutes, without tools. So you



▲ a spreader...

THE TURF TRUCKSTER



LOTS OF ATTACHMENTS.



▲ a core harvester...

get the right equipment for every job, with all the economy of a single, reliable power unit.

Developed and proven over almost 30 years of leadership in the USA, the Turf

Truckster sets a standard that no one can match.

And when it has the spares and service support of Ransomes' nationwide dealer network, why have any truck with anything less?



▲ a top dresser, sprayer, slicer, corer and more besides.

Please send me full details of the Ransomes-Cushman Turf Truckster range, and ask my local dealer to contact me to arrange a week's trial without obligation. GI.8.91

Name: _____

Position: _____

Club: _____

Address: _____

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Limited
Ransomes Way, Ipswich, England IP3 9QG
Tel: (0473) 270000 Telex: 98174 Fax: (0473) 270032

RANSOMES

CUSHMAN

PRINCIPLE EXPLAINED

See us on Stand I41-42
at the IOG Show

AN UNBEATABLE PEDIGREE

Here at Atterton & Ellis we have been making Grinders for over 100 years and although we say so ourselves, we are rather good at it and our Grinders prove it!

It is hardly surprising that during this time we have made Grinders for just about every type of cylinder on the market and for most of the prominent Grounds and Golf Clubs around the country.

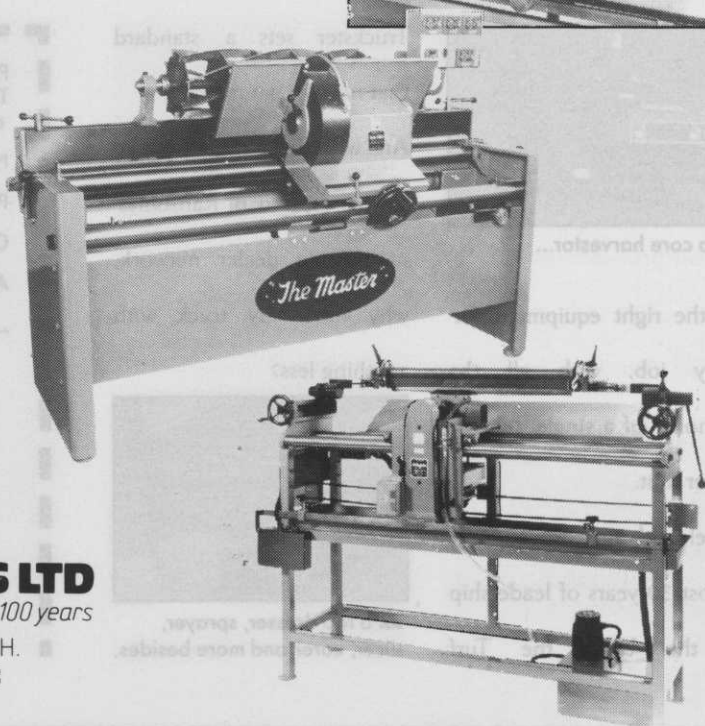
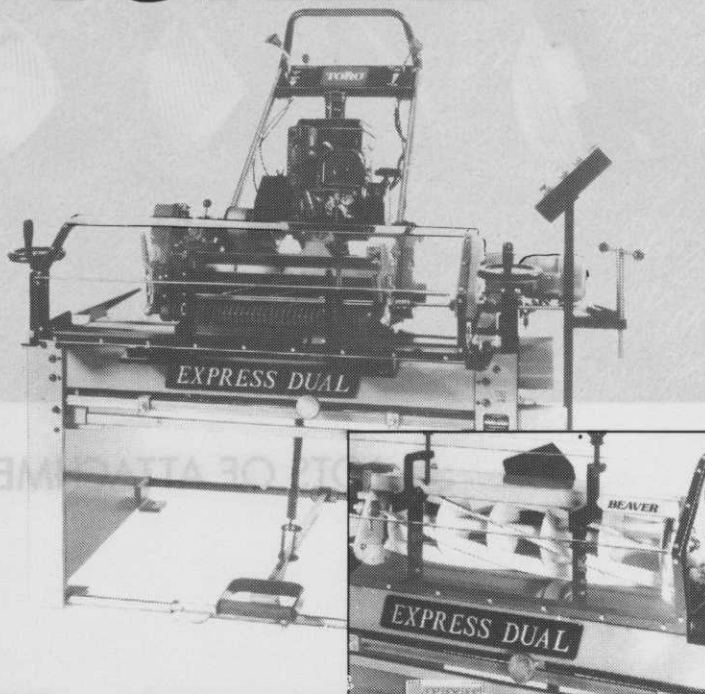
In fact, in our work shops at the moment we have Express Duals ready to go to America – the Atterton is well proven on the other side of the Atlantic too!

Our customers tell us the reasons we are still in demand 100 years on – our dedication to service, the quality of build, the value for money – they all add up to the finest Grinders available today.

We have constantly changed and adapted our manufacturing techniques to combine the best of yesterday's skills with the benefits of tomorrow's technology.

But more important than all that we are first and foremost Grinding enthusiasts and are happy to talk and give advice whatever your grinding requirements.

The Atterton Master leads the field – The Express Dual a technological revolution, in-situ and separate cylinder grinding – The Anglemaster, a bottom blade grinder to complement the best in cylinder grinding machines.



ATTERTON & ELLIS LTD

Manufacturers of Fine Grinders for over 100 years

Iron Works, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 8QH.

Tel: (0440) 702312 Fax: (0440) 712138

31 → 300 design and though lightweight, provides enough power to produce an unrivalled standard. The disengaging of outside units could not be easier. CDC intend to introduce the complete Lesco range over three years.

Workbenches good news for backs



With impending EEC Health and Safety Directives on lifting in mind, **R+R (UK) LTD** will be showing their range of Groundsman hydraulic workbenches. Designed to improve efficiency whilst reducing the risk of back injury, these have

proved popular with anyone involved in the maintenance of heavy equipment. The 1m wide x 2.2m long Groundsman (pictured) will easily lift ride-ons, ATVs etc. with a payload of 400 kg and is available with smooth or anti-slip checker surfaces. Its smaller stablemate, the Junior Groundsman, is ideal for mobile operations or workshops with limited space.

Keep taking the green granules

SIERRA UK LTD will reveal details of their new golf greens fertiliser – Sierrablen Mini – the only controlled release nutrition for fine greens turf. Available this autumn, Sierrablen Mini (26:4:5+2Fe) combines tiny 'green size' granules with the unique nutritional benefits that Sierrablen Turfmix already brings to many fairways. Sierrablen Mini granules are small enough to remain in the sward all season without being dislodged by close mowing and without disrupting play of the greens. Also on show will be Sierra's full range of specialist turf fertilisers including the recently launched Agroblen tablets – the latest in controlled-release long term feeds for soil grown trees and shrubs.

Computer programme for pesticides

RHONE-POULENC Environmental Products are pleased to be launching several new products at IOG. Datachem, 'the expert in your office', is the ultimate computer programme for anyone involved in the application of amenity pesticides. Datachem is packed with a range of features ensuring accuracy, efficiency and safety for the spray operator. They invite you to visit the Rhone-Poulenc stand to see them for yourself. The broadest range of CDA products available has yet another addition with CDA Castaway Plus and with → 37

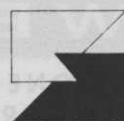
GOLF COURSE SIGNS



Designed to your own specification. Strongly manufactured. Maintenance free, chip resistant, club motif if required.

Choice of colours

Ring now and just let us know what you need



A C & M Birch Ltd
Golf Signs
Unit GH1, Platts Lane,
Burscough, Lancs. L40 7TE

Telephone: Alan Birch 0704 896177/892997

AD
REF
58

See us at the IOG

**MARK YOUR CARD...
...NOT THE GREEN!**

by using

TRELLEBORG  **TYRES**

Designed with turf care in mind, TRELLEBORG tyres allow the use of the heavier equipment that is now appearing on the market, without damaging the delicate surface or subsoil.

Our engineers can recommend a fitment for almost any machine, having at their disposal, 41 tread patterns and 85 tyre sizes.

TRELLEBORG LTD 90 Somers Road, Rugby, Warwickshire,
CV22 7ED. Telephone: 0788 562711 • Fax: 0788 579959



AD
REF
137

VITAX

VITAX

50 years experience of manufacturing a range of high quality fertilisers to the horticultural trade.



VITAX FINENEXTRA 8-0-0 + 2.5% F.E. + Chelated trace elements
A fine turf fertiliser containing both organic and inorganic sources of nitrogen. Now with a full range of trace elements.

See us on Stand C78 at the IOG Show

MICROGRAN 3

12-0-9 + 0.5% MC + 1% FE.
A special spring and summer small granular fertiliser for all fine turf areas.



PLUS

The Vitax soil analysis service to A.D.A.S. methods.



CF3 5-15-15.

A cost effective autumn winter outfield granular fertiliser and pre-seed base.

Three quality fertilisers from the Vitax key, powder, microgranular and granular range

VITAX LTD, OWEN STREET, COALVILLE,
LEICESTER LE6 2DE. TEL: (0530) 510060. FAX: (0530) 510299.

AD REF 139



VITAX



By Appointment to Her Majesty the Queen
Manufacturers of Fertilisers and Insecticides
Vitax Limited

WEEDBLOCK

DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE MARKET.

Weedblock is a highly porous commercial landscape mulch fabric which allows maximum air and water movement to the soil, via the thousands of microfunnels moulded into the fabric by a specially patented process.

PRODUCT FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Allows maximum movement of air and water to the soil, whilst blocking out over 92% of direct light, giving a high level of weed control.

Weedblock is a highly durable and flexible material, which is lightweight and easy to cut and install.

Dramatic reductions in site maintenance costs by eliminating herbicide maintenance treatments and reducing the initial requirements for bark, woodchip, or other mulches.

Conserves soil moisture.

Reduces plant losses.

See us on Stand C78 at the IOG Show

AD REF 139



35 ➔ the development of the Rhone-Poulenc closed system, the entire CDA range can now be used with minimal handling.

ATV is greenkeepers' workhorse

POLARIS Big Boss, the 'turf friendly' ATV, is the ideal workhorse for professional greenkeepers. It is the only 6 wheeled genuine ATV on the market with a purpose built cargo deck. Available with 4 or 6 wheel drive, the Big Boss punches 22hp through automatic transmission to haul a heavyweight 725lbs payload, plus 850lbs towing capacity. Don't worry about grass damage! Even with optional diffs., the six 22" wheels, fitted with low pressure rough terrain or turf tyres, ensure that ground compaction is kept to a bare minimum. American built Polaris are distributed in Europe by Crayford Specialist Vehicles.

Vast areas of turf laid in minutes

INTURF at IOG claim to be bigger and better! See for yourself their range of high quality mature cultivated turf as supplied to sportsturf projects throughout the country. See the huge 25sq.yd rolls of turf that can be laid in minutes by a remarkable new machine. Talk to turf specialists who provide a full design and specification service across a broad range of sportsturf projects in the UK and abroad. Visit Inturf, the 'most dynamic force' in the sportsturf industry today.

Screener/shredder for golf courses

GRADEALL INTERNATIONAL LTD manufacture loose material handling systems and a range of static waste compactors. At the IOG Show they will be exhibiting the Gradeall SS100 Screener/Shredder, a machine designed specifically with golf courses in mind. Because of the size of the unit, it can be easily transported around the course. Features of the SS100 are: Fully Portable; Diesel Hydraulic; Two deck adjustable screen unit; Fines chute and Kubota engine. A compact machine with a three in one performance – it blends, shreds and grades.

Vacuum for litter and thatch

The Promark Turf and Litter Vacuum 1050 model is so new to Britain that the paint is barely dry! Distributed by **LANDTEC INDUSTRIES**, it will see the first light of day at IOG. Powered by a Kohler 18hp engine, the Promark 1050 can be towed behind a mini-tractor or ride-on mower, where its powerful vacuum efficiently removes thatch from fairways and greens – as well as leaves and pine cones – through a 1.5m wide intake scoop and 3m wandering hose. Vacuumed matter passes through an impeller housing, is mulched and then deposited in a 5sq.metre capacity hopper. Landtec will also demonstrate their Dosko Stump Grinders and Root Cutters and their range of geotextile fabrics and impermeable liners.

New range of soil-based products

FAIRFIELD TURF have a new range of soil based products on display, including an all new 'Soil Selector' detailing these products and prices: Rootzone Mix, Planting Mix, Emcaceous Mix and Rockery Mix, the former specifically designed for the golf course construction industry. Existing and improved products include Fine Turf topdressing ➔ 39



See BIGGA staff at the IOG Show – we're on Stand E32. Come on down, you'll be more than welcome!

TURFIN' BIG OR TURFIN' SMALL?



25 SQUARE YARDS ON A ROLL



1 SQUARE YARD ON A ROLL

INTURF COVERS IT ALL

See us on
Stands K 17,
18 and 19
at the IOG



INTURF LIMITED

11b REGENT STREET, POCKLINGTON, YORK YO4 2QN
TELEPHONE (0759) 304101 FAX (0759) 305229

AD
REF
31

If anyone can



THE TEAM can

From dozens of different playing surfaces to re-claimed spoil heaps, from sand dunes to low maintenance highway verges, the J Team has the technology, the varieties and the mixture to give practically anywhere you can think of a strong, healthy grass covering. As soon as you start thinking grass, call us in straight away.

Johnsons Seeds

Unsurpassable for everything grassable.

W.W. Johnson & Son Limited Boston Lincs.
Telephone: (0205) 365051
Branches at Haydock & Woodley

See us on Stand PCS2
No 4-6 at the IOG Show

37 → and bunker sand, whilst good weather during spring has ensured excellent growth of their 'Super Range' of cultivated turves with ample acreages being available for the autumn. Noted for superb service, most Fairfield products are offered for delivery within 24 hours.

A first for John Deere

JOHN DEERE LTD, who entered the lawn and grounds care market five years ago, and who celebrate their Silver Jubilee this year, introduce no less than five new product ranges at IOG, the new additions being: four new LX Series lawn tractors, featuring an exclusive clutchless two-pedal speed and direction control; four new riding mowers, the SRX and GX models, with another industry exclusive in the foot-controlled variable speed drive system; two new 21" pedestrian lawn-mowers with John Deere engines and 'zone start' cut-out system and five new petrol engine trimmers/brushcutters – a first for John Deere in the UK.

Dig these tree spades

VERMEER EQUIPMENT (UK) LTD will be exhibiting Tree Spades; Wood Chippers; Stump Cutters; Trenchers and Trench Compactors at IOG, with the remarkable disclosure that more Vermeer Stump Cutters are sold throughout the world than all other makes combined! Their new, patented PRO series teeth for the 665B will be of particular interest. Vermeer Brushwood Chippers include self-powered and PTO units which feature hydraulic feed for safety and chip size control. There are eight models available and the 620I is proving to be a reliable and well priced mobile unit that takes material up to 6" in diameter. The Vermeer TS 40 Tree Spade, mounted on a Unimog, will also be on display.

Cylinders under guarantee

SUPREME MOWING will be exhibiting superior replacement cylinders which they manufacture themselves and, of greater importance, guarantee replacement against breaking upon hitting any moveable object. Using only the finest quality British steel and advanced methods of production and heat treatment allow Supreme Mowing the total flexibility to meet any technical specification and size. Thus they offer the widest range and the speediest deliveries available. Second to none are their range of 'Leader' grinding machines, offering many features unequalled by any other machine, the ultimate in lawn mower grinders. As is their custom, yet another advancement in technology surrounding cylinder grinding will be unveiled at the Show.

'Number one planting media'

BENTLEY'S will be showing products to meet all the greenkeepers requirements for turf including fertilisers, composts,

turf dressings, pesticides, herbicides and fungicides. Also featured is Bentley's 'Greentree' tree planting and mulching compost... the number one planting media used on many prestigious projects and made to their exclusive formula. This has a high fibre and high organic content made from re-cycled materials from renewable sources and offers a unique formulation which gives trees fast and initial growth whilst ensuring extended nutritional availability for 18-24 months.

Specialist soil care service

C&P SOILCARE LTD, incorporating Colin Pryce Terralift, is able to offer a complete specialist soil care service. After a site visit and soil sample analysis, recommendations for treatment can be made. Soil conditioners can be specially mixed by C&P and incorporated by Terralift or conventional means. A Terralift compressed air soil injection machine will be demonstrating its ability to inject products 90cms into the soil. It will also be seen root-feeding trees. A twin probed Terralift mounted on a compact tractor will also be on display. Greenkeepers are invited to discuss their particular soil problems with Colin Pryce.

Plants and unusual trees

BLAKEDOWN NURSERIES LTD provide a comprehensive range of stock from herbaceous plants to semi-mature trees. Besides Blakedown's main container shrub nursery near Kidderminster, they have a separate heather and alpine nursery, herbaceous nursery; and heavy standard tree nursery where top quality trees are grown from 12cm up to 30cm in girth. At their Knightwick Tree Nursery they have recently planted an arboretum featuring new, unusual and rarely used trees such as Acer platanoides 'Deborah', Malus baccata 'Street Parade' and Fraxinus excelsior 'Atlas'.

Get a taste for Rufford's...

RUFFORD TOP DRESS SUPPLIES LTD will be exhibiting at the IOG Show in Peterborough for the first time. Rufford welcome existing and new customers to their stand, who will be made more than welcome to taste the culinary delights of Margaret Jefford's cuisine which, reckons Peter Jefford, 'many customers will remember from years gone by.'

Peter, Rufford's MD and Chairman Frank Garvey, will be on hand to go through the expanding range of Rufford's quality top dressings, rootzones, sands and soil. Due to the the 'rocketing success' of Ruffords they will all be there to show their appreciation to all their customers.



A classy John Deere cab – five new product ranges will be on show at the IOG

WESSEX

Sweeper Collectors

Collect leaves, grass clippings and litter from turf or hard surfaces.



The Wessex Sweeper is PTO Driven, has a big hopper which can be tipped from the tractor seat, and is designed to sweep clean even on undulating ground.

4ft & 6ft versions for tractors from 15hp



Optional gully brush attachment

WESSEX FARM MACHINERY SALES CO.
Trading Estate, Oakhanger Road,
Bordon, Hampshire, GU35 9HH.
Telephone 0420 478111

AD
REF
210

See us on Stand K47-52 at the IOG

TORO Didn't Just Overpower The Competition, They Outmanoeuvred Them.



There's just nothing to better the performance and manoeuvrability of the TORO GROUNDMASTER 220-D. A power packed out-front rotary mower that effortlessly carries out the most demanding jobs. Four link power steering is the key to the 220's handling. It's all so easy for the operator to make sharper easier turns with less fatigue.

Groundsmaster 220-D

The benefits of the GROUNDMASTER 220-D is endless ... for example ... unique weight transfer system ... better traction ... better floatation without scalping ... heavy duty carrier frame ... floating cutting decks ... small compact wheelbase ... plus speed and strength with a 20 hp liquid cooled, 3 cylinder diesel engine.



in a class of their own

TORO distributed by LELY (UK) LIMITED

Station Road, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 1QH
Tel: 0480 76971 Telex: 32523 Fax: 0480 216167

Please send me full details of the TORO GROUNDMASTER 220-D
Name Address Post Code Tel

GL8.91

AD REF 61

GREENKEEPERS LIBRARY

Grown men are not supposed to hero-worship and upon reaching middle age there are few this reviewer holds in God-like awe. One can genuinely admire many men, golf writers like Longhurst and Darwin for example, or players like Harry Vardon, Bobby Jones, and Jack Nicklaus; though hero-worship is not something I reserve specially for them.

My hero – yes, I have one – is Harry Shapland Colt, the golf course architect who left an indelible mark on every course he ever touched. A golfer will find this man's genius in so many places that it is difficult to single out a single example, though Pine Valley springs to mind and is one Colt course I have played and would happily play to the exclusion of all others for the rest of my days.

Colt helped to change the face of some half million acres of this planet and his lasting legacy include such championship courses as Muirfield, Lytham St Annes, Wentworth, Hoylake, Sunningdale and Sandwich, together with lesser publicised gems the like of Swinley Forest, Tandridge and Worplesdon. If you are not impressed you must be a golfer from a different planet!

Views such as mine are shared by every golf course architect that ever drew breath, none more than Fred Hawtree, himself an architect of great note and the author of *Colt & Co, Golf Course Architects*, which is undoubtedly the best book to come across my threshold in a long, long time. The British Association (now 'Institute') of Golf Course Architects says that golf's classic attitudes should still inspire modern design, and this first publication under Fred's own publishing imprint – Cambuc Archive – accepts that belief. On it, Colt virtually founding a profession. Fred Hawtree describes Colt's career from schooldays to old age; fits in a wedge of letters which he and partners Alison and Morrison exchanged between 1939 and 1951 and then sums up his legacies and adds three contemporary articles by him and about him, plus a 300 plus list of their courses. Greenkeepers are essentially thinking men and have a great empathy with design excellence. As such they will appreciate more than any the thinking behind this great architect's unrivalled quest for perfection. I urge every reader to buy the book, – there will be no disappointment.

Colt & Co, Golf Course Architects, by Fred Hawtree, is published in hardback by Cambuc Archive at £28.50.

The making of a golf course is still shrouded in an element of mystery for most people and this may be understood more clearly when one considers just how complex the whole business can be and how few witness its nativity. An unusual, indeed unique, approach to lifting the veil is presented in the form of a novel – *Driving The Green*

– by John Strawn, a writer who has drawn on practical experience in the US golf construction business and who takes us from the developers eyes through to evolution of the architect's imagination.

We meet the clearing crew – bulldozers crashing through the undergrowth – and see lakes dug and dirt taken to form the course's characteristic outlines, rolls and plateaus. The shaper, the artist whose brush is a giant earthmover, is here too, painting the architects desires with the earth as his medium. Of course, the greenkeeper plays a vital part and it all adds up to an (earth) moving story which will fascinate and amuse both golfers and those connected with the vast golf industry.

Driving The Green – The Making of a Golf Course, by John Strawn, is published in hardback by Harper Collins at £16.99.

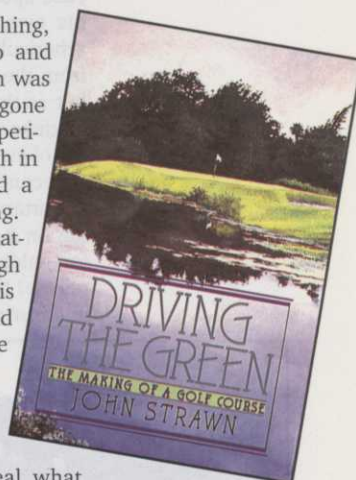
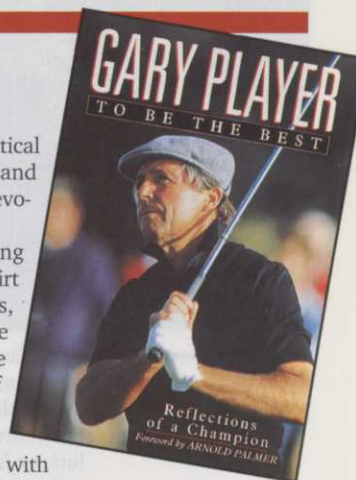
When the 'Big Three' really meant something, Gary Player was one of the famous trio and proved beyond doubt that a good little 'un was equal to any of the big guys in the world. He has gone on proving it through 40 or more years of top competitive golf and is still a force to be reckoned with, both in Regular and Senior Tour events. He has carved a whole new career that has his contemporaries reeling.

It is well known that Gary was and is a fitness fanatic and his daily regime still lasts an hour... though now fellow professionals who used to smile at his antics 20 years ago and dismissed him as some kind of crank follow him into the fitness caravan on the USA Seniors Tour.

The book, *Gary Player – To Be The Best: Reflections of a Champion*, is his autobiography, in which one of golf's immortals analyses his own success and that of other great players, to reveal what makes a champion both on and off the golf course.

This is an intensely private story and covers both the elation of victory and the downside of a career where he made a few enemies and was the subject of death threats. For my money, he remains a figure of admiration and a truly great golfer. If I had to rely on just one person to play to the pin from a bunker – and my life depended upon the outcome – I'd choose Gary Player. Written with Michael McDonnell, a delightful and astutely observant golf correspondent for over 25 years, the book is sheer joy and a worthy addition to any golfer's library.

Gary Player – To Be The Best: Reflections of a Champion, is published in hardback by Sidgwick and Jackson at £15.99.

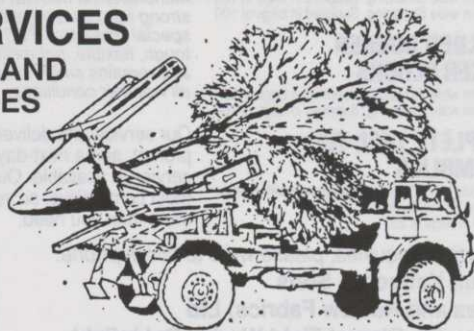


See us at Demo 4 and on the Westcon Stands 22, 23, 31 and 32 at the IOG

ARBORICULTURAL SERVICES TREE MOVING SPECIALISTS AND SUPPLIERS OF LARGE TREES

RUSKINS

Semi-mature trees
to plant, transfer,
remove or thin out



Send now for our comprehensive brochure
explaining tree moving and all our other services

Contact:

RUSKINS, Hill Farm, Childerditch Street, Little Warley, Essex CM13 3EG

Tel: (0277) 353436 • Mobile: (0831) 174704 • Fax: (0277) 353916

AD
REF
144



Root development for application of Verti-Mulch

A one, two, tree

DAVID WHITE considers the effects of the mini-industry in donated trees to golf courses and suggests a three-point guide to their maintenance

Almost as popular as the perennial teak bench-seat, more and more greenkeepers are receiving donated young trees or saplings – given to the Club in memory of a deceased member who found pleasure on God-given golfing grounds – or finances from a widow to purchase a tree which the donor hopes will flourish in perpetuity.

Casting a watchful eye over the growth of this almost inevitable mini-industry, especially in south and south western retirement towns, it seems to me that there is danger lurking from at least three sides.

To begin, whilst varietal choice is often an emotive one – “dear old Marmaduke so much enjoyed the beauty of the willow” – the wise greenkeeper will attempt to bring influence upon the final variety of tree actually planted, based on his own local knowledge or perhaps guidance from an arboriculturist. After all, a pretty willow planted a few yards from the back of a green may look grand for a year or two, but as the roots begin to infiltrate the putting surface, Marmaduke’s memorial will become a vastly expensive folly and the object of blasphemy.

Second, the positioning of any tree is of paramount importance and great thought should be taken before deciding on a final site. In considering shadows look to the sun for guidance, always remembering (forgive the hackneyed phrase) that big oaks from little acorns grow, and be vigilant in ensuring that the little sapling being planted isn’t going to

cause future generations of golfers a high degree of heartache. Placement to the sides and rear of greens may seem a smart idea at the time, but flow of air and restriction of natural light can play merry havoc with the health of a putting surface. Planting trees in properly spaced clusters, to the right side of an open fairway if the contours and sun permit, seems to me a bonny way of breaking the monotony of those often boring straight out and back holes, together with providing an added hazard for the chronic slicer. Try always to think naturally when planting, bearing in mind that trees don’t grow in uniform lines, except on French roadsides!

Third, and most important of all, it is vital during the formative two or three year period of growth and development to ensure that a correct programme of maintenance is carried out. Rather like the golf course itself, young trees will prosper if care is taken and get very sickly if neglected. Imagine if you will a golf course untouched for a month – is the picture of horror imprinted in your mind? – so it is with young trees.

To begin, check all small trees during their first weeks in the earth. Ensure they are firmly implanted and carefully tread them in to keep the soil firm. Stems should be upright and although trees grow better without stakes, staking may be necessary – indeed almost obligatory – if we are to prevent errant golfers from hacking the youngsters to death! At the beginning the young tree will have been given its own little patch of ground, free from weeds and grass. Keep



Kenyon Tree Strapping

TREE TIES OF DISTINCTION

- The most durable tree strapping on the market.
- Impervious to all weather conditions.
- Our service is your guarantee.
- Kenyons offer next day delivery service.
- Suppliers to:
The Forestry Commission.
Metropolitan Leisure Services.
Landscape Departments.
Landscape Contractors.
Landscape Architects.

Manufactured from an extremely strong hard wearing webbing with a special protective PVC coating. It is tough, flexible, not easily vandalised and remains smart in appearance in all weather conditions.

Our service and deliveries are prompt, and a next-day delivery service is available. Our prices are most competitive, so you don't pay more than you need.

KENYON TREE STRAPPING

- Heavy Duty**
Type T35 38mm wide. Supplied in 25 metre rolls
- Medium Duty**
Type T84/3 38mm wide. Supplied in 50 metre rolls
- Light Duty**
Type T74 25mm wide. Supplied in 50 metre rolls

SPACER COLLARS

- For 38mm wide Strapping. Supplied in bags of 100
- For 25mm wide Strapping. Supplied in bags of 100

MOULDED RUBBER SPACER BLOCKS

- For 38mm wide Strapping. Supplied in bags of 50
- For 25mm wide Strapping. Supplied in bags of 100

COMPLETE TREE TIE ASSEMBLIES

- 25mm wide Light Duty Strap complete with Spacer Collar and Fixing Buckle. Supplied in bags of 25.

For further enquiries, please write to or telephone:

William Kenyon & Sons
(Ropes and Narrow Fabrics) Ltd
PO Box 33, Chapel Field Works, Dukinfield,
Cheshire SK14 4RP
Tel: 061 308 2721 Fax: 061 330 2686



See us at IOG Stand J53, 54, 55



BELWOOD

TRANSFORM YOUR GOLF COURSE 'OVERNIGHT'

Create immediate impact overnight with mature trees and shrubs from Belwood. We are one of the largest tree nurseries in Europe, specialising in the production of semi-mature trees and shrubs, with comprehensive listings of deciduous and coniferous trees and shrubs, which we distribute nationally.

Although we specialise in large rootballed trees, we can also offer many varieties of whips and sizes through to standard trees supplied bare root from our nurseries in Perthshire.

We also provide a tree lifting service using our mechanised tree spades, should you plan to relocate trees. Enquiries welcome.

For catalogue, contact **Ron Low**
Belwood Nurseries Limited
Mauricewood Mains

Penicuik, Midlothian EH26 0NJ
Tel: 0968 73621 Fax: 0968 78354

guide to arboriculture

it that way! Trees growing amongst weeds find it tougher to extract moisture than those on bare soil and it is of immense benefit to remove all grass and weed growth over an area of at least one square metre. Dense grass, particularly short mown grass, is particularly harmful and will substantially reduce growth in formative years.

Mulching conserves moisture for the tree by suppressing weed growth, at the same time keeping the ground surface cool. Organic materials such as leaf mould, straw, bark or compost have much to commend them as their gradual breakdown will fertilise the soil. Avoid very fine grades of peat and especially lawn clippings as these invariably interfere with the transit of air and water into the soil. The use of clear polythene sheeting, tree mats or old fertiliser bags (print side down please), held in place with stones or soil, can also be utilised as mulch.

How much water do young trees need? Except in drought conditions, not much is the answer, especially if they are mulch covered. As they grow and become larger, a thorough weekly soil soaking during any dry period will however be beneficial.

I can hear the howls of protest from those whose working day just isn't long enough and for whom new trees may well be just another headache to take on board. Take heart, for once planted, competition for water, light and nutrients amongst saplings can be very effectively controlled by the careful and diligent use of herbicides, such as Roundup PRO, which contain glyphosate. This is absorbed by weed and grass leaves and moves through the entire plant whilst remaining inactive in the soil and does not affect tree growth through roots. It can be effective on even the most stubborn of weeds, including brambles and bracken, though care should be taken to avoid applying herbicide to the tree itself.

A word or two on pruning, it being considered prudent to remove unwanted branches before they reach a thickness of two inches. Such action, whilst often looked upon as drastic on such tender life, lessens the risk of decay entering the plant. Remove one shoot if a double leader is growing, also dead or crossing branches. Remembering the height of a golf swing, keep lower branches clear but don't exceed one third of the total height of the tree.

If your course already has trees which have suffered from stress and look set to die, consider the possible use of the innovative 'Verti-Mulch', common in the States and now available in the UK. The principle is to bore six holes around the drip line of the tree about 40cm in depth with a 6cm diameter. The majority of the bore hole is then filled with 'Verti-Mulch' and topped with sand. Water filters through the sand to the additive, which draws water like a sponge and provides nutrients to the stressed root system.

Finally, consider the option which tree surgeon Keith Banyard of Witchampton in Dorset took, that of transplanting local species of semi-mature white birch and English Oak trees to the Wareham course from a nearby estate. Experienced in handling such conservationist projects, he utilised a Vermeer TS 50 Tree Spade mounted on a tractor, which required only one person for the whole operation. The spade controlled the size of hole when removing the tree and caused little or no damage to the turf. The transformation was amazing, with more adventurous holes in play in no time.



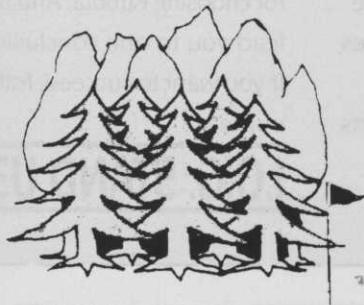
Effects of Roundup Pro treatment around young tree in tree shelter

woodcare ARBORICULTURE AND FORESTRY

- ★ Experienced golf course contractor-consultant.
- ★ Specialist in golf course maintenance.
- ★ Character of each golf course always of prime importance.
- ★ Close consultations with the greenkeeper and greens committee.
- ★ Individual trees attended to.
- ★ Distance no object.

Previous Courses:

Sunningdale Golf Club.
Sunningdale Ladies Golf Club.
Farnham Golf Club.
Effingham Golf Club.
Coombe Hill Golf Club.



HENS M. HINLOOPEN, PENNY FARTHING COTTAGE
FOXHILLS ROAD, OTTERSHAW, SURREY KT16 0NG
Tel/Fax: (0932) 873777

AD
REF
50

TREE MOVING

Move 10 or more of your own trees
for less than the cost of one semi-mature tree.

Two machine sizes: 30" and 62" diameter rootball

Tree spade hire

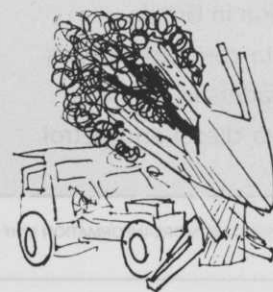
Semi-mature trees supplied and planted

Tree stump removal

Tree surgery

NATIONAL SERVICE

Martin Bromage
Coopers Hill
Gloucester GL3 4SB
Tel: 0452 862110
Mobile: 0831 577777



AD
REF
333

THE POWER THAT LEADS...

BI-SPEED TURN: Kubota leads the way.



FOUR WHEEL STEER: Kubota leads the way.



GLIDE SHIFT TRANSMISSION:
Kubota leads the way.



'EVER' CLUTCH: Kubota leads the way.



One hundred years of engineering excellence and a record of innovation has put Kubota in a powerful position in Britain. Kubota compact tractors are leaders in the field.

engines provide the power for leading companies. And Kubota mowers – ride-on and walk-behind – are leading the way in small gardens and large estates. But the power of Kubota is evident not just in the

products themselves. Kubota power has created one of the most extensive customer support resources in the country, with a massive investment in parts and service through a dealer network which is

second-to-none. These are powerful reasons for choosing Kubota. And they lead you to one conclusion. If you want to succeed, follow our lead.

I.O.G. STAND U33

AD REF 86

PLEASE SEND ME MORE INFORMATION WHY KUBOTA LEADS THE WAY.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____ TEL: _____

GI.8.91



KUBOTA (UK) LIMITED
Dormer Road, Thame, Oxon
OX9 3UN Tel: 084421-4500
Fax: 084421-6685

THE POWER THAT LEADS



COMPACT

R A C T O R S

Never underestimate the compact tractor, advises HUGH TILLEY. In many areas they are more than a match for their big brothers

Compact tractors have become an almost uniquely Japanese phenomena, but there are several European models with similar size and feature attributes. In the UK compacts are marketed under their own names, for example as Kubota or Iseki, and/or in the livery of several major UK tractor suppliers, such as Ford, Massey-Ferguson and John Deere. The important feature of their development must be the Japanese dominance in small diesel engine design and production. Built up around their success is an entire UK industry devoted to producing attachments and implements, these ranging from cabs and controls through all types of mower to wrap-around loader/backhoe combinations.

Features which have contributed to this popularity are their manoeuvrability and ease of use, together with the fact that they offer most of the features expected from a modern tractor such as PTO, hydraulic linkage and external services, at a very competitive price. In terms of power, 'compacts' range from about 12 hp to about 40 hp or above, although it could be debated that they lose their compactness at the top end of this power range, equating to the smaller tractor in terms of price, weight and size.

The majority of compacts have a conventional clutch/gearbox transmission, however most manufacturers produce one or more hydrostatic models, generally in low or mid power ranges where the engineering is not too expensive or power loss too noticeable. The advantages of instant clutchless forward/reverse and infinitely variable



The Charterhouse Turf Tidy, mounted on a Kubota L275

speed for mowing or loader work are obvious. Selection of a conventional manual gearbox should take into consideration the work for which the tractor is required – will there be sufficient low gear ratios for core tining etc.?

Power is of vital importance in the ability to undertake the tasks required on a golf course, but weight usually conferred with greater power is also occasionally necessary for stability – and even for grip. Even so, compacts should not be under-estimated, because with four wheel drive, more efficient engine/transmission systems and a well set-up implement, most are able to compete with their bigger (and more expensive) brethren. There are three basic options for utilising tractor power: traction, power take-off (PTO) and hydraulics, these latter making 'tractor' a misnomer. Tractors have become prime-mowers and main sources of power – and this is particularly true with the compact tractor.

Traction is an essential component on many operations – perhaps trailer work typifies these on a golf course – but other draught operations include ground cultivation, scarifying and rolling. All modern tractors go back to the late Harry Ferguson's principles of weight transfer – of imposing

the implements weight on the tractor (rear) wheels to increase grip – in fact Mr Ferguson would thoroughly approve of the concept of the compact. The Ferguson type trailer has the axle set right at the back with coupling close under the rear axle to impose much of the load weight there. Four wheel drive did not come into the original concept, however it provides a spectacular advantage in grip and is not an expensive addition at 'compact' size. It also provides extra weight and strength for the front axle and power steering, all useful attributes for other applications such as front loader work. Another important factor in the grip equation are the tyres. Traction tyres are essential to maximise grip, especially when on bare soil, but they are not user friendly. The simple → 46



The SISIS Powadrag linked to a Ford 1220

■ The author, Hugh Tilley, is a technical journalist whose specialised knowledge includes modern greenkeeping machinery.

COMPACT TRACTORS

45 → answer is to have two sets of wheels – or buy a set of wheel chains (sold for forestry).

The power take off, invariably abbreviated to PTO, has become perhaps the most important point from which to extract power from the engine and is usually the most efficient. Rear PTO is standard, but front and mid PTO options may be available and found ideal for mowers and other implements, perhaps with limitations of power output and/or speed. It may be possible to mount an extra hydraulic pump or similar to the front of the engine crankshaft and this can be useful for uprating performance of loaders or for powering a hydrostatic mower. The British Standard PTO speeds are 540rpm, or 1000rpm (for higher power output), but some tractors offer other variations – which may need adaptation to the implement. 'Live' PTO drive is also an essential modern requirement – with the PTO having an independent clutch.

A three point linkage was the operation system devised by

Harry Ferguson for implement carriage and control – this having become standardised in categories (Zero, One and Two) according to power and size – so that in theory any implement should fit any similar category tractor. In practice this does not always work, but the exceptions are reasonably rare. More frequent are



The Amazone Sweeper mounted on an Iseki 320

variations between link end and PTO measurements. Lift control may be a simple spool valve or a quadrant and lever – normally controlling the position of the links – however higher specification models also have, or can have, draught control to automatically adjust the depth (draught) according to tractive effort.

Of growing importance are external hydraulic services, used to operate front loaders, lift and fold mowers, control splitter depth and tip trailers. These services – and the use and abuse of them – contribute to more problems in compact tractor operation than any other cause. Often this is due to a lack of specification or knowledge by suppliers of tractor and implement. A crucial fact is to realise the difference between single and double acting spool valves and hydraulic rams. Spool valves vary in type and operation so it is essential to ensure the right one is matched to each specific implement.

Cab or no cab is another question of individual preference and use, ROPS being the compact norm. A top specification cab provides a (relatively) quiet, cool, dry and clean environment without too much impediment to getting on and off, but adds over £1,000 to the price.

A loader can be extremely useful on a compact, however if required for intermittent use ensure that it is readily detachable. For satisfactory service it should be fitted to a robust tractor or have adequate chassis reinforcement, for many compact tractors owe much of their light weight and price to the use of pressed and folded steel in place of traditional castings.

Compact tractors offer exceptional value for money and great versatility and can undertake most of the tasks required on a golf course. However, they should not be expected to do the same work that is expected of a 50-70 hp tractor, nor with implements designed for such vehicles.



■ The role of formulations and packaging in the agrochemical industry is undergoing a transformation. Regulatory authorities, led by the UK, expect manufacturers to build the most appropriate technologies into their product – in other words minimise hazard to operators and the environment.

ICI have been at the forefront and the result is now seen in a new bottle, funnel shaped with an isolating handle to prevent lodging when emptied, which requires only one hand to pour and with a 63mm wide neck prevents 'glugging'. Three ICI products will initially be packed in these, the revolutionary Water Dispersible Granular (WDG) herbicide formulations Groundhog, Speedway and Soltair. "Now 15 years after its introduction we are witnessing a marked trend toward WDGs," said Roger Mossop, ICI Professional Products Marketing Manager.

■ The buoyant Jacobsen division of Textron has announced a joint marketing agreement with the turf care equipment manufacturers, Smithco. The agreement covers the international distribution of the complete Smithco range and will be available under the newly created name of Jacobsen-Smithco, the products to feature under the familiar Jacobsen orange livery.

Pictured after signing the agreement, are Rene Orban, Bill Kenney, Dick Miller and Tom Carter.

■ Marketing Link and Milliken Chemicals, through their UK distributor, Farmura Ltd, have launched a "Better-Way-to-Spray" campaign to introduce greenkeepers to the benefits of Blazon spray pattern indicators. Greenkeepers who purchase 12 litres of Blazon before September 30th will receive a golf towel and the opportunity to join the BIGGA delegation to the GCSAA Convention in New Orleans. The successful winner, chosen in a draw by BIGGA Chairman, George Malcolm, will be invited to Aldwark Manor to receive the prize.

■ Fisons Horticulture have appointed Avoncrop Amenity Products of Sandford, Bristol, as a main distributor of Fisons professional turfcare and amenity products. Avoncrop will cover the south west and south of England.

■ In the Tillers Fibreturf competition held at the Landscape Industries Exhibition, the £100 prize for guessing the number of fibres in a 10 litre bucket of Fibreturf rootzone was shared between John Churchward of Torquay and Mr Kennedy of Worcester G&CC. They were nearest to estimating 858,500 fibres which, if laid end to end would contain enough fibres to join London with Moscow! Tough stuff indeed.

■ Turf Irrigation Services, the UK's major Toro Irrigation distributor, have appointed Irriserve of Preston as an Authorised Area Dealer and Installer operating in Lancashire and Cumbria.

■ Industrial Power Units (IPU) have set minds at rest following the closure of JLO GMBH and the news that Technamotor UK will distribute JLO spares in the UK from October 1st.

IPU is a diverse company and JLO sales represented only 15% of their overall business. Having the Dori range of grass maintenance equipment and, more recently, having added Ferris rotaries to the stable, IPU are very confident of their future and only recently delivered six Ferris 36" Hydrostatic rotaries to Mid Glamorgan's maintenance wing, TransPlant. Our picture shows the handing-over.



TRADE
TOPICS

See us on Stand M10-16 at the IOG

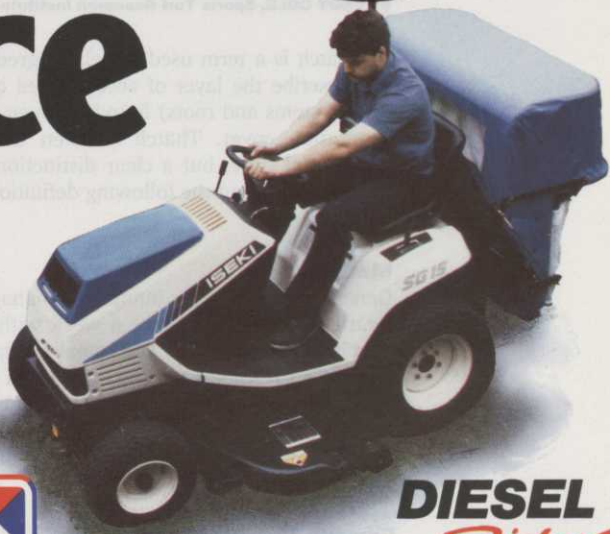
ISEKI

The driving force



TU

The midrange maestros – the Iseki TU range offers you a choice of manual or hydrostatic drive, with models from 19-27 horsepower all designed for more productivity and performance, whatever the task.



DIESEL Rider

For professional or domestic grass cutting the Iseki Diesel Rider means you can cut and collect in one productive pass. A choice of 13-15 horsepower models with manual or hydrostatic drive.



TA

Iseki TA Tractors mean big productivity on courses or in parks – three models from 33 to 48 HP, all with four wheel drive and Iseki shuttle drive gearboxes.



The original compact tractor – these 16-18 horsepower machines offer you real versatility with 2 or 4 wheel drive and front, mid or rear mounting points.

TX



Iseki have a range of tractors to suit your needs. From 14-48 horsepower you'll find no more versatility, no more technical excellence, no better support and no better finance schemes. That's why Iseki are the driving force - because no one looks after your compact tractor needs more than Iseki.

Iseki UK Ltd, Broadway, Bourn, Cambridge, CB3 7TL. Telephone 0954 718981. Fax 0954 719731.

Please send me more details on the Iseki range of Tractors. I am particularly interested in the following ranges: GI.8.91

Diesel Rider TX TU TA

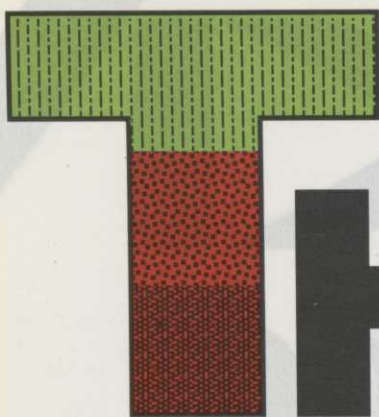
Name:

Address:

Tel No:

Postcode:

TRACTORS · MOWERS · POWER EQUIPMENT · ATTACHMENTS



Tackling

HATCH

by ANDY COLE, Sports Turf Research Institute

Thatch is a term used loosely in greenkeeping circles to describe the layer of accumulated organic matter (old leaves, stems and roots) found between the soil and its live vegetation cover. Thatch is often used to describe all deposits of fibre, but a clear distinction would be helpful from the start and the following definitions can be used as a guide:

Mat/Litter

Generally found in less intensively managed turf, where the sward is cut perhaps once a week without boxing off the clippings and very little additional mechanical work undertaken. This results in a loose build up of grass clippings and decaying plant debris in between the grass stems at the base of the sward. It is more characteristic in old and neglected lawns or areas of turf which are not so intensively managed, such as semi-rough.

Fibrous Thatch (Fibre)

Fibre is more commonly found under acid, moorland turf which tend to favour the finer *Agrostis* and *Festuca* grass

species. It develops as a hard, brown, often dry layer and is sometimes referred to as resembling coconut matting with its rough, wiry texture. In dry weather, these fibre layers can make the turf prone to drought stress and shown symptoms of dry patch, particularly on featured areas; the fibre drying out and acting like a thatched roof. Mechanical aeration and treatment with a proprietary non-ionic wetting agent can be employed to overcome the symptoms by aiding water penetration.

Spongy Thatch (Thatch)

Thatch is used to describe the yellow/brown, foul smelling, moisture retentive material producing anaerobic conditions often associated with wet, compacted, poorly drained soil and waterlogged throughout most of the year. *Poa annua* invariably predominates the sward, since this species survives better under these conditions than the finer grasses, but questions still arise as to whether *Poa annua* causes thatch or whether thatch is encouraged by *Poa annua*.

Leaf growth is most productive in the spring and early autumn (less so in mid-summer) while root growth more so through late autumn and early winter, ie. when not very cold. The life-span of each leaf, root, rhizome is relatively short and a continuous cycle of tissue production and death takes place to perpetuate these perennial grass species. Natural decomposition of plant organic matter depends on environmental conditions and seasonal fluctuations, with thatch accumulation resulting from tissue production proceeding at a rate in excess of that for decomposition.

Whether turf thus develops thatch or not depends mainly on plant growth rate, the composition of the plant tissues, maybe the quantity and type of pesticide being used, as well as fertility, aeration, temperature and moisture in the thatch environment. Under intensively managed turf, scarification/verticutting also has a role in keeping thatch build-up under control.

Decomposition of plant material is carried out by soil micro-organisms, microfauna and macrofauna in succession; no one species seems to have all the necessary enzymes

PROBLEM		CURE
<p>Grass Composition Annual meadow grass overwatered and overfertilised promotes rapid accumulation of thatch. Thatch in turn promotes shallow rooted species, hence more thatch – the problem feeds upon itself!</p> <p>Thatch Restricts root penetration, therefore less drought tolerant. Pitchmarks, soft in winter, surface moisture encourages moss.</p> <p>Compaction Restricts water movement, promotes shallow rooting and annual meadow grass, generally poor growing conditions.</p>		<p>Grass Composition Improve grass composition by sound management practices to promote bent and fescue species.</p> <p>Thatch Removal of existing thatch by hollow tine aeration. Encourage natural thatch breakdown by getting air into the surface by regular aerating. Prevention of further accumulation by verticutting, etc. and again by sound maintenance.</p> <p>Compaction Relief of compaction by slit/solid tine; Vertidrain, Twose Vibrating mole plough, compressed air.</p>

PROMARK VACUUMS for turf care professionals

Rapid and efficient removal of:

- Thatch
- Grass Cuttings
- Aerator Cores
- Litter
- Pine cones and needles
- Leaves
- Divots
- Animal droppings

Simple to use and low maintenance:

- Towed by mini-tractor
- 4 cub.m. capacity hopper
- Flexible hose for hard to reach areas and gullies
- 18hp engine unit
- Collects by suction only

For a free demonstration, hire rates or purchase price contact:

LANDTEC PRODUCTS, ETON NURSERY, COMMON ROAD, ETON WICK, WINDSOR, BERKS SL4 6QY.
Tel: 0753 831218 • Fax: 0753 853155

What the eye can't see...



LOG STAND J58



required to break down the components of higher plants. Certainly, the sequence and interactions are complex and different from one habitat to another but is thought to be initiated by fungal activity, bacteria and nematodes feeding on the bacteria/fungi. A succession of micro-organisms is essential if total decomposition is to be achieved, each group feeding on the residues remaining from a previous groups' activities. More detailed research is required to determine closer relationships.

Micro-organisms require nitrogen to decompose organic matter, which is itself rich in carbon. A low C : N ratio (< 20 : 1) favours decomposition by micro-organisms. Unfortunately, nitrogen can be rapidly leached out of the thatch layer which allows the C : N ratio to become rather high. It has been shown that when frequent, moderate applications of fertiliser are applied, thatch decomposition can be accelerated, but if there are excessive fertility levels, turf production rates are increased but not decomposition rates. Therefore more organic matter (thatch) becomes deposited and nitrogen in the soil is not available to the

increased annual meadow grass, worm and weed activity, with the possibility of take-all patch developing. Lime is therefore only recommended after careful consideration and not as a matter of routine.

Temperature, moisture and soil aeration all play a significant role in the thatch situation. Dry conditions may inhibit thatch breakdown and under prolonged dry weather the thatch can be difficult to re-wet, the surface actually repelling water. Excessive moisture and lack of air in the soil, either as a result of over-watering, heavy clay soil or compacted layers, produce the characteristic anaerobic, foul smelling, spongy thatch, which can often be reduced through better management practices or installation of a drainage system as required. All biological activities are temperature dependent, therefore increased thatch production is to some extent counteracted by increased microbial activity and temperature becomes less significant than aeration and moisture.

In practice, sound basic maintenance work can be geared to minimising thatch problems, for example minimising

micro-organisms in the thatch.

Where fibre is a problem, with a tough, hard, brown fibre layer in the turf, over-acidic conditions could be added to the situation – breakdown often being most rapid at about pH 6.0, the rate decreasing rapidly as acidity or alkalinity is dramatically increased. In rare cases it may be necessary to raise the pH level, but the side effects could prove disastrous, particularly on fine turf with

'In practice, sound basic maintenance work can be geared to minimising thatch problems'

Come and meet the BIGGA team on Stand E32 at the IOG



BTME

BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme 1992

22 - 24 January 1992, Harrogate Exhibition Centre



Make a date in YOUR diary for the industry's premier event

Don't be disappointed.
If you don't book your stand space now, you may miss out.
Book now – ring Debbie Savage on 03473 581

REVITALISE YOUR FAIRWAYS

Bookings are being taken for the Autumn Season for TURFMECH'S unique, Nationwide Fairway Scarification and vacuuming service.

If you would like to receive our full information leaflet call:-



Turfmech

0889 881611

Or visit us at Peterborough
Stand No.s D 30/31





HATCH

'Addition of a sandy top dressing dilutes thatch and increases its permeability'



49 → ing the use of water and fertiliser to maintain grass growth but not force a lush sward. Scarification/verticutting also has an important part to play during the growing season to lightly flick through the turf, removing creeping growth and surface litter. A comb attachment for the mower is useful in this respect.

A more thorough verticutting treatment in early autumn, setting the blades to cut into the turf, can be beneficial, but may not resolve the problem alone. Hollow tine aeration in the autumn or spring is very helpful as this physically

removes a small proportion of the unwanted fibrous material, which can be replaced with a more free-draining sandy top dressing – a type of soil exchange. It must, however, be appreciated that hollow tining using 12mm diameter tines at 50mm centres removes only 5% of the surface, which is a relatively small proportion and must therefore be continued over a number of years.

More recently, with the introduction of the Coremaster 12 fitted with quadra-tines, it may be possible with severe problems to hollow tine through the summer without undue

surface disruption, this coupled with monthly top dressing. Hollow tining can also be used to relieve compaction or barriers near the surface, but for deeper seated drainage problems the use of sub-aerators such as the Verti-Drain or Twose Turf Conditioner is useful. Solid or slit tine aeration must also be carried out on a regular basis to relieve surface compaction and permit air into the soil to promote natural thatch breakdown and encourage deeper rooting.

The addition of a sandy top dressing dilutes thatch and increases its permeability, providing a more open texture which can be attacked by micro-organisms. Top dressing with a sandy soil is also believed to prolong the available nitrogen supply to the thatch layer, which in turn promotes more decomposition. The objectives are to intersperse sandy top dressing with the thatch to keep it open and promote natural breakdown – not just to bury it. Aeration through the winter helps with the 'mixing process', as well as promoting air circulation.

Where the thatch layer exists for several centimetres, such as on an old golf green, it may be possible to cut the turf thinly; cut and discard the layer of thatch, rake up the turf bed and replace the turf or, indeed, remove the turf and thatch in one go and either seed or turf. A drastic measure perhaps, but not to be discounted in extreme circumstances. It should be realised, however, that unless the cause of the thatch is eliminated the thatch will merely tend to accumulate once again after the turf has been replaced. Conventional maintenance should be stepped up before such measures are considered.

● The author, Andy Cole, until recently an advisory agronomist with the STRI, is now a lecturer in greenkeeping at the Warwickshire College of Agriculture.

AGRIPOWER LTD SPORTSTURF

SPORTSFIELD CONSTRUCTION
IN
GRASS OR SYNTHETICS

DRAINAGE - SANDBANDING

VERTIDRAIN HIRE

STONE PICKING

CULTIVATIONS

MACHINERY HIRE

Head Office: 02406 6776
Midlands/North: 0543 250010

RECRUITMENT

ST. ENODOC GOLF CLUB

invites applications for the post of

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

From persons of proven ability and experience in all aspects of course maintenance and knowledge of machinery maintenance, with ability to direct and motivate staff.

References will be required.

No accommodation available. Salary negotiable.

Applications in writing to:

The Secretary

St. Enodoc Golf Club

Rock, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6LB

(Tel: 0208 863216)

Marple Golf Club

requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be suitably qualified and experienced in course management.

The ability to organise and encourage greenstaff is essential.

Salary negotiable. No accommodation.

Replies in writing with CV to

Mr P R Kay

**Marple Golf Club Ltd, Barnsfold Road,
Marple, Stockport SK6 7EL**

A better way to **SPRAY**

With concerns running high in respect of the long term impact of pesticides on the environment, public discomfort regarding chemical pollution of waterways, and increased legislation restricting the transportation, use and storage of hazardous substances, there has never been a better time for greenkeepers to take stock of their spraying practices.

Surveys by university researchers have shown that on average, spray operators overlap their chemical applications by 25% to 30% more than the manufacturers' recommended rate. This is an alarming fact from both an environmental view and in terms of wastage and cost. In addition, the potential damage that can occur to fine turf if double dosing takes place under conditions favourable for damage puts this area into the high risk category.

Yet surprisingly, though the chemical debate has been with us for years and more people are worried about the role of chemicals in recreational areas, greenkeepers in the main still rely on sight and 'experience' when it comes to judging the application of sprays. Judging the correct application of solutions comprising 99% clear water is very risky: spray becomes almost invisible when applied to grass, making it impossible for the operator to follow the spray line accurately, causing an inevitable overlap.

In the past the practice of drawing chains behind the sprayer to mark bout width margins on the turf has been tried with little success. Anyone who has seen chains snaking across a fairway and knocked off line by every hump, hollow or twist will soon realise that the chain does



not reflect the true spray margin and can be almost impossible to see.

Another method, originating from the agricultural industry, uses a special piece of equipment which produces in a transportable tank a foam mixture that is pumped out of pipes at the ends of the boom. This foam is dropped as 'blobs' – at intervals behind the sprayer – with the object of marking the position of the spray boom width. Though clever in its conception, this method rarely works well in practice due to factors such as variability of time the 'blob' takes to disappear (golfers do not take kindly to seeing fairways and greens festooned with foam balls) and the lengthy set-up and clean down time. There is also a significant investment in the initial capital outlay and on-going maintenance. Even if it could be argued that 'blobs' give the operator some guidance on spray bout width, it does not identify any 'skips' or misses due to uneven ground or reveal problems due to faulty spray equipment.

It may have been argued in the past that the chain or 'blob' method of identification was better than nothing. However, neither alternative has widespread appeal and both have their detractors, who see them as flawed.

In the early 1980s some greenkeepers on the other side of the Atlantic, fed up with the 'blob' or chain methods, were obtaining industrial dye products in an attempt to colour their spray solution, which could then be seen by the operator during application. However, many of these were found to be unsuitable – they caused not only long-term staining of the grass, adjacent walkways, fencing and stone 52



Top picture: See clearly where you have sprayed.

Centre: Blocked or clogged nozzles are easily spotted.

Bottom: Spray pattern indicators can be used to check spot treated areas.

Cost savings indicator

PRODUCT	ROVRAL GREEN	SUPER VERDONE	CASTAWAY PLUS	TURFEX	FLO-GRO
USE	Fungicide	Herbicide	Worm-Killer	Wetting Agent	Liquid Fertiliser
AREA TREATED	500 sq.mts 600 sq.yds	10,000 sq.mts 12,000 sq.yds	1,000 sq.mts 1,200 sq.yds	5,000 sq.mts 6,000 sq.yds	500 sq.mts 600 sq.yds
RATE OF USE	1 ltr	10 ltrs	1 ltr	5 ltrs	4 ltrs
COST OF PRODUCT	£21.72	£45.29	£14.12	£70.00	£5.00
Extra COST OF 25% OVERLAP	£5.43	£11.32	£3.53	£17.50	£1.25
TOTAL SPRAY SOLUTION	26 ltrs	310 ltrs	76 ltrs	300 ltrs	28 ltrs
RATE OF BLAZON	52 mls	620 mls	180 mls	600 mls	56 mls
COST OF BLAZON	.57p	£6.81	£1.67	£6.60	.61p
COST SAVINGS A-B-C	£4.86	£4.51	£1.86	£10.90	.64p
COST SAVINGS 18 GREENS (one spray)	£87.48	£4.51	£18.60	£21.80	£12.80

'Through this, the whole nature of spray application changed'

51 → work but also of the equipment and operators themselves! Many were found to have unacceptable levels of heavy metal concentrates and were expensive to use in practice.

It was around this time in the USA that Milliken Chemical, a research based textile company, identified the problems associated with the industrial dye products and, through the technology at their disposal, formulated a speciality spray colourant – for use on turf.

Through this, the whole nature of spray application changed, turning an educated, though unreliable, guess into an accurately applied science. The product is not a dye, but a unique water soluble polymeric colourant which, when added to a spray solution, produces a temporary blue/green colour on turf, allowing operators to easily see where they have – or have not – sprayed. The colour disappears completely and naturally following rain, dew, irrigation – or even sunlight alone, claim the manufacturers. Formulated as a liquid concentrate, greenkeepers can soon select the ideal colour for their personal preference and adjust it to suit seasonal changes in grass colour, height and light conditions at the time of spraying.

With its use in the spray solution, problems of missed areas, repeat spraying, turf damage and double dosing due to overlap are eliminated. Spray operators will see immediately the spray pattern being applied and detect at a glance problems such as worn, faulty or clogged nozzles. By eliminating spray overlap the additional cost of the spray colourant is offset by the amount of chemical saved. In the case of fungicides, greenkeepers can save almost £5 every time they spray a tee or green (see table on Page 51) and as an additional feature, the colourant has been used with success to enhance greens' colour prior to a tournament.

From an environmental point of view, the use of spray pattern indicators are an invaluable aid in eliminating the wasteful use of pesticides and preventing excessive build-up of undesirable chemicals in the soil. In addition, the colourant can assist with cleaning spray equipment: when the colour has gone, the operator can be confident that the equipment is free from chemical contamination.

Spray pattern indicators are also ideal training aids for greenkeepers taking their Ministry Certified Spray Operators examination and should be regarded as standard practice for all spray applications on turf.

The golf industry should be aware, however, that industrial dyes are still being packaged and sold to greenkeepers as speciality spray colourants. The spray colourant referred to above, Blazon, is a patented formulation specifically developed for turf use and is unlike any other colourant sold in the UK.

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

MIDLANDS

June was bustin' out all over at Great Barr GC on the 4th, with the morning round of our Summer Tournament interrupted by a heavy hail storm, which left the course white in a matter of minutes. There were several players in 'the hunt' after the eventful morning round, the afternoon being more enjoyable as the weather improved.

In the event a winner emerged in the guise of Ted Evans, with Steve Wood a close second. The Gross prize was won by Paul Loffman.

The course was in excellent condition and a credit to the greenkeeping staff. For this we thank Great Barr GC, also for granting us the use of course and clubhouse and for catering that was second to none. Finally, a thank-you to our trade friends for supporting us so well.

Our next tournament will be at Edgbaston GC on August 20th and we look forward to meeting all of you again.

Best wishes go to Rhys Thomas on his new job as head greenkeeper at Great Barr GC.

DEAN CLEAVER

SOUTH WEST

'Drought'? does anyone remember a drought? Certainly in the Cotswolds the last six weeks have been a total wash-out. My neighbour (a keen gardener, few of us left!) was spotted staggering around his lawn with an umbrella, retrieving his garden sprinkler.

Knowle on June 5th, for our match Greenkeepers v Secretaries, was another fine example of a summers' day with incessant rain and a strong wind. But, as they say, it's an ill wind etc. etc. and the weather obviously upset the secretaries more than the greenkeepers, (you don't get cold winds and driving rain in nice warm offices or bars!), and thanks to our super-sub Chris Light, the head greenkeeper at Knowle, who came in with the best score of 36 points, we greenkeepers managed to beat the secretaries by just 11 points.

Thanks were also due to Chris, Kevin and the rest of the Knowle staff for the outstanding condition of the course and to the Club itself for the warm hospitality extended to both teams. We are also extremely grateful to Derek Holloway for organising the match and to Monro Horticulture for providing every member of the winning team with a prize.

I hope that you have all found entry forms coming through in order and if any of you have slipped through the 'regular entry' system and would like to have forms, please give me a call on 0285 651908.

Finally, congratulations to Laurence Pithie on becoming Britain's first 'Master Greenkeeper'. Laurence tells me it was eight months hard slog to prepare for the written exam, which he described as 'tough but fair'. Another first for the South West.

PAUL WORSTER

SCOTTISH REGION

The Scottish Region Championships were held at Alloa GC on June 25th, the previous weeks having been the wettest recorded in June for decades and

many Clubs were forced to postpone events due to torrential, almost tropical downpours and cloud-bursts that could flood a course in minutes. June 24th was a dry exception and so on the 25th it was with a sense of trepidation that we arrived to black skies and the Ochil Hills barely visible through mirk and gloom.

However, 9.30 came and the first 3 ball away to nothing more than a light spitting of rain and high hopes. Ha, fooled again! By 10.30 the rain was a constant downpour with the 14th green – viewed from the clubhouse – looking more like a curling pond in summer than a golf green.

All eyes on 'yours truly' as a mini-conference took place with head greenkeeper Duncan Peddie. Suspend play was the verdict.

On again by 11.40, the troops were still not convinced. Duncan Peddie and assistant Alec Nimmo, with the able help of Kevin Brunton (Souters) and Andrew Menmuir (STS), both ex greenkeepers, checked the greens. Our grateful thanks to you, lads. Was the Reg. Admin. right? of course he was, for by mid afternoon it was shirt sleeves and a sunshine finish for everyone. Though finishing later than planned, it turned out an excellent day and we were soon ready for the presentation, made perfect by the gracious attendance of Alloa Club Captain, Alan Goodwillie, who on this, their centenary year, presented each winner with a copy of the Club's history.

Exactly 100 golfers took part in the tournament, which may be a record. Originally 109 players were drawn but the conditions seemed to make some of our respected trade members a bit under the weather and unfit for play!

We must thank Alan Goodwillie and his council for their courtesy in hosting the Championship, Also club secretary, Alan Frame and green convener Jackie Vietch, who joined us for our day. To Margaret Harrison, club manageress, and her staff for friendly service, hospitality and delicious meals and Duncan Peddie – happy birthday Duncan to you and your crew for the excellent condition of the course.

The trophy table at The Scottish is a sight to behold. So many marvellous trophies to win and each containing a voucher contributed by our Scottish patrons – all generous to a fault.

On a personal note, my thanks to Cecil George and Jimmy Neilson for their valuable assistance and to my wife, Edna, for her hard work and support in dealing with 100 golfers. It was good to have old friends amongst us including Joe McKean, whose golf was curtailed by an accident with his caddie car (we hope you are healing nicely Joe!), and George Hampton, 'laughter is the best medicine', eh George? As usual, George donated a generous prize as did Kevin Brunton of Souters.

It was a long day but one to be remembered. Let us herald the Scottish Champion for 1991, Gordon Moir of Fraserburgh, with a scratch 75. Well done Gordon. Further results were: Best net; Wilson Morrison (Royal Aberdeen) 70. Best head greenkeeper: Duncan Peddie (Alloa) 80-9=71. Best assistant: Stewart Crawford (Ratho Park) 78-7=71. Best apprentice: Neil Chrichton (Tulliallan) 80-8=72. Veteran: Harry Diamond

(Ayr and Bellaisle) 78-5=73. Team: North Section. Trade: Stuart Syme (Reekies) 76-2=74. Guests: Jackie Vietch (Alloa GC 84-10=74. 1st class: 1st. Duncan Gray (Kyle and Carrick) 80-9=71. 2nd James McCormack (Kirriemuir) 79-8=71. 3rd Stephen Hogg (Drumpellier) 76-4=72. 2nd class: 1st Jack Steadward (Douglas Park) 82-12=70. 2nd Gordon McKie (Tain) 83-11=72. 3rd Stewart Melville (Lothianburn) 85-13=73. 3rd class: 1st Hugh McLatchie (Peterhead) 95-20=75. 2nd Brian Hillen (Drumpellier) 98-20=78. 3rd Steven Frost (Royal Aberdeen) 100-20=80.

Finally, best wishes to Neil Crichton, who leaves Tulliallan to take up a position in Dorset. Hope you've got your passport Neil!

ELLIOTT SMALL

NORTHERN REGION

June 19th saw 39 competitors take part in the Iseki regional finals, played over Keswick GC in the Lake District. Qualifiers had travelled far and wide to attend, but it was Jimmy Richardson's team of 12 men from the North East that took the bulk of awards, including the section team prize. Receiving an engraved salver as section secretary, Jimmy was pleased to see that his team took all three places in category 1 and second in category 2 - a fine result and an indication of what can be done when you've time to practice!

I'm sure competitors will agree that Tim Jones and his staff prepared a good test of golf, with Mr & Mrs Wallace testing our eating capacity in fine style and to the limit. Thanks to them all and to the Club for making us feel so very welcome.

A special thanks also to our sponsors, especially Peter Powell and Steve Broad, who after a tough day travelled away to Edinburgh immediately after the event. Finally to Bert Cross, who acted as official starter before playing a round himself - Thanks to you all.

Results: Category 1: (Card play-off) 1st M Gunn - N.E. - 79-7=72. 2nd P Robinson - N.E. - 79-7=72. 3rd C Parkinson - N.E. - 80-7=73. Category 2: 1st K Kirkham - Sheffield - 82-14=68. 2nd S Cram - N.E. - 87-18=69. 3rd F Platt - N.W. 81-10=71. Category 3: 1st T Jarvis - Northern - 94-22=72. 2nd A Reed - Cleveland - 97-24=73. 3rd B V Lax - Sheffield - 104-27=77. Team score: North East 757.

On a final note, the Iseki final at Hillside will see regional team captains playing for The Regional Prize. With Hillside on home territory and with us having the youngest team captain, I feel sure we'll be in a good position to win. So team, keep practicing.

HOWARD McADDEY

SURREY

After a great time in Canada, I'm back! Busily setting up for a qualifier for The Open. The news below comes courtesy of Bert Watson, who revived the match described.

On Tuesday June 4th it finally happened. The match Greenkeepers v Secretaries at Tyrrells Wood GC, 14 a side with the sun shining, a warm day with no wind.

Results: Billy McMillan and Tony Witt beat Frank Moore and Barry Morgan 6/5. Don Major and Billy Machin beat Bob Spiller and Spencer Skeen 4/3. Paul Weston and Micky Lower beat John Ashton and Ralph Fanshaw 1 up. Alex Armitage and Alec Bradshaw beat Ray Passingham (his partner having failed to turn up) 3/2. Bert Watson and Micky Cooke beat Bill Betts and Tyrrells Wood accountant Yvonne Stimpson 3/2. Mick Kirkham and David Whitaker finished all square with John Wood and James Pevalin. Our

only losing match was that of Brian Turner and Gordon Smith against Tyrrells Wood secretary, Paula Humphries and Stephen Manning, when they did the honourable thing by accepting defeat. Thus the greenkeeping team won 5 of 7 with one half.

I should like to thank Tyrrells Wood GC for ensuring the re-instatement of a match that had lapsed over the past few years, the Club caterers for laying on a splendid meal, my staff for producing a course which met with approval all round, and most of all to Tyrrells Wood Secretary, Paula Humphries, without whose help the event would not have been possible.

Thanks for this report, Bert. Others, please contact me on 025 125 4287 with any news.

PHIL BALDOCK



Brian Porteous (centre) poses with trophies, together with, from left, George Brown, Harry Diamond, Jim Paton and Duncan Gray

AYRSHIRE

At the end of yet another excellent year of work by the staff of Ayr Technical College, the greenkeeping students were presented with their trophies and certificates at a special invitation day. I was especially pleased to have three of my own Kyle and Carrick staff receiving awards. It's also nice to see the more experienced men still willing to go through the college system and doing so well.

Trophies were awarded to: Brian Porteous (New Galloway GC) The BIGGA Cup for Best Student plus Employed Cup. Gordon Kirkpatrick (Kyle and Carrick/Dalmilling GC) The Y.T. Cup for Best Student. Stuart Hogg (West Kilbride GC) Y.T. Cup for Runner Up. (Stuart used first aid knowledge gained at Ayr College to assist with a broken ankle injury on West Kilbride beach and was commended by the hospital concerned.) Steven Ross (Kyle and Carrick/Dalmilling GC) Employed Cup. Colin Smith (Kyle and Carrick/Dalmilling GC) Y.T. Cup.

I have just enjoyed an excellent day of golf at the Scottish Regional Tournament at Alloa and proved the old saying: 'beware the wounded'. If I can win a prize carrying a duff leg and back then there's hope for the rest of you yet!

DUNCAN GRAY

WEST SCOTLAND

By courtesy of the captain and committee of Lenzie GC, the West Section held their spring outing over the Lenzie course. It was a fine day and considering the late April date the course was in excellent condition.

The turn-out of some 60 members and guests was very pleasing, with our membership now standing at over 130 and is still on the increase. The committee look forward to seeing this upward trend continue, especially at our Autumn Meeting at Cowal GC, Dunoon, on September 19th.

The results were as follows: Scratch: Stuart Taylor (Glasgow) 72. First class: 1st: Alistair Cannel (Cawder) 74-5=69. 2nd: Gordon Kerr (Gledoch Hotels Ltd) 78-8=70. 3rd: Alec Ferguson

(Cowglen) 82-9=73. Second class: 1st: David Montgomery (Drumpellier) 82-12=70 (better inner nine). 2nd: Stuart Perston (Renfrew) 81-11=70. 3rd: Sandy Brawley (East Kilbride) 89-17=72. Third class: 1st: Alistair Frazer (Renfrew) 98-25=73. 2nd: Neil Henry (East Kilbride) 101-26=75. 3rd: Stuart Cameron (Cawder) 96-20=76. Trade prize: Alan Stevenson (Souter of Stirling).

The section will hold the annual dinner at Sloans, Glasgow, on November 8th, with tickets on sale at the Autumn Meeting. There will be three speakers: Peter Lloyd from the Scottish PGA, Stuart McCartney, chief reporter for The Daily Star, and one speaker has still to be confirmed.

GORDON KERR

MID ANGLIA

The fixture list for the coming year is nearing completion and will be sent to each member as soon as it arrives from the printers. There is a change from the existing list, the Autumn Tournament is to be held at Woburn G and CC on Monday October 30th, the cost for the day being £16.50. The final of our Matchplay Championship will also be held on the same day at Woburn, by kind courtesy of our sponsors, Lodgeway Tractors Limited. All entries should be sent to Ken Bunting; to arrive not later than October 15th.

Members of Mid Anglia section have been invited to visit Hambury Manor GC in early October. Watch for the date, which will be published in next month's magazine.

GEOFF SMITH

LONDON

The London section held its second competition of 1991 at Porters Park GC on June 4th. This 18 hole Stableford was won by Ted Dickinson of Hatfield and County CC with 38 points (on countback) from Martin Smith of Porters Park GC. In third place came Daniel Branson, also from Porters Park GC, with 32 points. Best guest was Tony Kelly with 38 points.

The course was in its usual superb condition, and our thanks go to Martin Smith, whose enthusiasm never seems to falter, and his team of fine greenkeepers. The competition was well supported by our trade members: Parkers; Euroturfcare; Sta-Brite; CMW and Pattisson. Our thanks to them all.

The National Conference for 1992 will be held in Cirencester from 27th - 29th March. Greenkeepers considering attending would do well to make a strong effort.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

NORTH WEST

In June I had the pleasure of meeting both David White (the editor) and Tom O'Brien (the head greenkeeper) at Royal Birkdale for a preview of the course prior to The Open Championship. Tom and his staff are doing a grand job and the course is a credit to them year round. I really cannot imagine how Tom manages to keep so cool, when vehicles loaded with scaffolding are pulling in, and the usual peace of the course is shattered, but he does, and is a credit to our profession.

Beautifully manicured fairways and greens could be viewed from almost every sand dune and even the menacing bunkers looked timid with their deep faces closely mown. For my part I just drank in the whole scene and admired the work of some true professionals.

Can I remind you that a team of 16 is required for the Roses Match on Thursday August 22nd. Any player with the 'killer' instinct can con-

AROUND THE GREEN

53 ➔ tact me on 051 724 5412.

One point I must make is that in the North West alone almost 70 members have not renewed their membership this year. So... if you are reading this in someone else's magazine – your subs have not been paid. There are many advantages in being a BIGGA member and no disadvantages, so send off your subs and read your own magazine!

BERT CROSS

NORTH SCOTLAND

Will all members please note that in order to avoid a clash with the Iseki finals, the Autumn Meeting at Peterhead has been brought forward one week. It will now be played on September 5th, with overnight accommodation on Wednesday September 4th available at The Palace Hotel at very reasonable rates – providing you book through me. This meeting will also act as a qualifier for the Iseki Tournament in 1992.

With this advance in timing, members should also note that lottery tickets must be returned by September 3rd as the draw will take place on the 5th.

Your committee have decided that part of the money raised will be used to assist three members to attend either the BIGGA exhibition at Harrogate or the National Conference, with a maximum of £200 per person. Selection will be by way of a competition, independently judged, details of which will follow later.

The North section have so far excelled themselves on the course, with seven out of nine qualifiers in the Iseki finals coming from the north. This was followed up with the retention of the Section Cup at the Scottish Tournament at Alloa in June, as well as winning several of the individual awards. Let's hope it continues in the Iseki finals and that Ian MacLeod covers himself with glory as our representative in the Ransomes Tournament.

GORDON MOIR

SUSSEX

Our June meeting was held at the delightful Pycombe Golf Club, with 24 members battling out against old man Par and a strong wind. Perhaps we were fortunate in seeing no rain. Our thanks to Adrian for the condition of the course and to all within the clubhouse for caring for us so well. The meeting was sponsored by Farmura and we thank them – especially Jim Coppen for presenting the prizes. The winners were: 1st C Tate 38 points. 2nd S Wells 33 points. 3rd P Ray 32 points. Guests and Trade: 1st G Ogilvie 31 points. 2nd D Haskall 25 points.

DEREK COOMBER

NORTHERN

Tuesday June 11th saw our President, Bill Mountain, hold his annual President's Day at Lightcliffe GC. Many thanks to all at Lightcliffe, especially head greenkeeper Adrian, for an excellent course. Award winners were: Clive Walton (Calverley) – best gross and the Jubilee Cup. Mick Lealman (Ganton) – best nett and Cup. 2nd: Mick Hannan (Moortown) 3rd David Spurden. In the second division Daniel Rowe took top honours followed by Telford Jarvis and Colin Garnett. Well done lads.

Our next golf date is Invitation Day at York Strensall. I have encountered a problem with the Roses Match, the list of players/members who

wished to play having disappeared from my computer. Please call me for this event – August 22nd at Crossland Heath – which is sponsored by our friends from Patissons.

I now hold a comprehensive range of official BIGGA merchandise and these may be ordered by calling me on 0274 590463.

BOB LUPTON

EAST OF ENGLAND

The fresh winds and showers at Blankney proved an ideal test of golf for our Purdy's Trophy in May. The course was in first class order and had more grass than most of us had experienced during the cold, dry spring. Conditions made for a tight competition with both Richard Owens and Don Dykes returning nett 71's. On this occasion Don took a bow to youth – losing on count-back, with Richard retained the trophy for the second time in succession. This competition also gave us our qualifiers for the Iseki regional final.

Our thanks must go to Tony Fox for his excellent organisation and for the warm and friendly hospitality that is the norm at this Lincoln Club.

The Iseki regional final was held at Belton Park on June 24th and although we had a reasonable blow and odd showers the scoring was excellent.

I must congratulate our member, Graeme Patrick, in qualifying, with David Salisbury and Charlie MacDonald both achieving reserve slots. Charlie returned a gross 73 nett 69.

COLIN SWINGLER

SOUTH COAST

From a total 'field' of 48 players at the spring meeting at Blackmoor GC, players from a wide area pleased sponsors Huxleys Grass Machinery Limited and Jim Fry (Section President), who declared themselves well pleased with the response. The sponsors kindly presented the individual awards, which were much appreciated by all players. Additional prizes were donated by Rigby Taylor Ltd, New Forest Farm Machinery Ltd and CMW Equipment. The hospitality of the host Club was well received and a message of welcome was read from the Host Captain.

In the afternoon both Gordon Payne and Brian Forder showed their stamina and improved on the morning scores to take major trophies.

RESULTS (all 36 holes) Lowest gross, Brian Forder (Southampton) The Tregunna Trophy 80 + 75 = 155. 2nd lowest gross, Gordon Payne (Maidenhead) The Rowes Rose Bowl 77 + 78 = 155. Lowest nett, Joe Cooper (Milton Abbey) The Roffey Cup 62 + 75 = 137. 2nd lowest nett, Joe Newman (Downshire) The Denyer Cup 70 + 74 = 144. Over-50s lowest nett over 18 holes: John Flavell (Parkstone) 80-12 = 68.

Jim Fry presented a trophy for competition by under 25's – THE CHRISTOPHER FRY TROPHY – which in this its inaugural year was won by Mark Diment (Knighton Heath) with 70 + 71 = 141.

Prizes were also distributed for the lowest 'surviving' score from both morning and afternoon, these being won by Bob Walker (Queens Park) AM gross 78. Ian Greenfield (Goodwood) AM nett 68. Phil Ryder (The Army) PM gross 79. Nick Horne (Bramshott Hill) PM nett 70.

BOB DENNIS

EAST MIDLANDS

At the recent ICI competition at Moor Hall GC, Richard Barker finished equal second. The eventual winner, Mike Hughes, who goes forward to

the National Tournament in Harlech soon – courtesy of ICI – is having his handicap 'adjusted'. Well done Mike and all the best.

Erringtons of Elvington brought the TORO Hydroject to The Leicestershire recently and the demonstration proved a great success.

We had an enjoyable and interesting evening at W. Hewitts and Son in Leicester, given for head greenkeepers' and green chairmen, with a walk round their very large premises and a showing of the various top dressings which they mix with great accuracy by using computers. This was followed by a talk on COSHH given by Jon Allbutt. All who attended found this very worthwhile, especially in view of all that is happening on the front of health and safety law. The evening rounded off with an excellent buffet served by the young ladies of Hewitts. Credit also to Vitax for supporting us by bringing in John Allbutt – I am sure other sections would find a similar evening most worthwhile.

Finally, congratulations to Steve Goode on his appointment as head greenkeeper at Scraftoft.

GORDON MITCHELL

DEVON and CORNWALL

The grapevine has been working overtime in recent weeks, with Stanley West – who were Ransome dealers for the South West – going into receivership and Monro Amenity Care, closing. We shall miss their smiling faces and wish our many friends good fortune, with the hope that they may soon be 'back on the road again'.

On a brighter note, Pat Field wishes to thank all section members who knew her from Robinsons and Greenlands for their help and support over the years. Pat has found herself a part-time job which should serve well until she finally retires. Our congratulations to Terry Farkins of Torquay GC, who has been selected to represent Cannington College in the 1991 Toro scholarship award – best of luck, Terry.

Also congratulations to Chris Pine, who has qualified for the Iseki final, and to our team, who after listening to my 'let's do it to them before they do it to us' pep talk, managed to win the team shield. Our thanks again to P J Flegg and Devon Garden Machinery who look after us so well.

RICHARD WHYMAN

MIDLANDS REGION

The first qualifying Section Committee Members golf competition, sponsored by ICI, was held at Moor Hall GC on June 18th. Open to committee members only, the event, over 36 holes, was won by Mike Hughes from the Midlands section with the team event going to David Heads and Barry Holt from BB&O section. Dave Siddon of ICI presented the prizes and thanked Richard Minton – also of ICI – for organising the competition, Pete Woodward – course manager at Moor Hall – for excellent playing conditions, the indoor staff for a fine meal and finally Moor Hall GC, its captain and committee, for granting courtesy of the course. The regional final of the Iseki Championship was held on June 24th at Belton Park GC, Steve Broad of Broad Spectrum giving thanks to Belton Parks' captain, Keith Flinders, for the courtesy of the course and to head greenkeeper Colin Swingler and his staff, for the excellent playing conditions. Tony Snaith of Iseki presented the winners prizes and wished qualifiers good fortune in the finals at Hillside on September 12th.

The section team prize was won by the East Midlands and the qualifiers were: Category one: 1: R McKeown, MA. 2: P Sewell, EM. 3: M Emery, EM. Reserve: C MacDonald, EOE. Category two: 1: B Piggott, MA. 2: G Patrick, EOE. 3: A Cutler, M. Reserve: D Salisbury, EOE. Category three: 1: R Saunders, MA. 2: M Bindley, EM. 3: E Porter, EM. Reserve: M Billings, EM.

Buyers' Guide

The most cost-effective way of reaching readers of Greenkeeper International. Simply ring 03473 581/2 and ask about an alphabetical category listing: the cost starts from the equivalent of under £21 per month.

Aeration

AERATION & DRAINAGE SERVICES



For Hire: Hydroject, Verti-Drains and Turf Conditioners, etc.
Contact: Paul or Lesley Wright, Aeration & Drainage Services, 20 Westminster Close, Eastbourne, Sussex BN22 0LQ. Tel: (0323) 506725 Mobile: (0860) 838241

Arboriculture



All sizes of tree moving machines available for hire. Most machines equipped with flotation tyres. Also massive stocks of Nursery Grown Trees in all sizes.

Contact:
RUSKINS TREE MOVING LTD
 Wolves Farm, Wyatts Green, Brentwood, Essex CM15 0QE
 Tel: 0277 353436
 Fax: 0277 353916
 Mobile: 0831 174 704

MARTIN BROMAGE TREE MOVING

- Tree Planting
- Tree Surgery
- Tree Stump Removal

Nationwide Service

Coopers Hill, Gloucester GL3 4SB
 Tel: (0452) 862110
 Mobile: (0831) 577777

LARGE TREES

FOR INSTANT MATURITY!
 Supplied and planted nationwide from our extensive nursery stocks exceeding 200 varieties and species. Also our Tree Spades on 4 x 4 Tractors transplant trees on site economically.

CIVIC TREE CARE LTD.

102 High Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 4AF
 Telephone 044282 5401
 and 081 950 4491
 FAX 0442 890275
 Call us for stock list and advice.

Artificial Grass

UNIVERSAL MATERIALS CO. LTD.
 The Golf Mat Specialists

UNIMAT AstroTurf

Also Easy Picker Ball Harvesters and Washer
 577 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxfordshire OX9 8HH
 Tel: (0865) 341580.
 Fax: (0865) 341575

TEETECTOR TEE MATS

The mat with the guarantee Unique heavy duty golf range and municipal mats. 25mm hand finished woven pile. .20mm shock pad. Professional galvanised and painted frame. Any size, any shape. Double sided. Free Demo unit available. Trade welcome. Putting surface.



Contact:
Evergreens UK

2 Extons Units Market Overton Oakham, Leics LE15 7PP
 Tel: (0572) 838208
 Fax: (0572) 838261

Bark

NATURAL ALTERNATIVE TO PEAT

Bark for Mulching, Walk Chips or Woodfibre for those woodland tracks and walkways between green and tee. Biomulch for large scale economic ground cover. Playbark for adventure playgrounds. Soil conditioners, top dressings and loam are all available. Telephone 0666 502711 or write for free colour brochures.

MELCOURT INDUSTRIES LTD

Tetbury, Glos GL8 8JG
 Tel. 0666 502711
 Fax. 0666 504398

Bins

LISTER

by
 Green Brothers (Geebro) Ltd
 South Road, Hailsham
 BN27 3DT. Tel: (0323) 840771
 Fax: (0323) 440109

Buildings



Storage for all your greenkeeping equipment.
Elwell Buildings Ltd
 021 553 5723

Compaction

THE PROBLEM . . .
COMPACTION
THE SOLUTION . . .
TWOSE 3 OR 7 LEG TURF CONDITIONER
 Nationwide hire from

PROFESSIONAL GRASS CARE
 Ring now for more information on our specialist hire equipment
 Tel: (0507) 609989
 Fax: (0507) 609009

Compact 3 leg
 18" wide
 Standard 7 leg
 60" wide



Compost



Compost and Top Dressings Manufacturer

A specially formulated range of quality composts to ensure strong, healthy plants. Delivered pre packed or bulk

TUNSTALL BRAND COMPOSTS

Eden Park Ltd, Tunstall Sittingbourne, Kent
 Tel: 0795-471583/478108



Golf Build (UK) Ltd

GOLF COURSE AND DRIVING RANGE CONSTRUCTION

Sedlescombe, East Sussex
 TN33 0SD
 Tel: (0424) 870888
 Fax: (0424) 870855

Specialists in SPORTSFIELD and GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION

Conservation & Leisure Ltd

Chapel Farm, By-Pass Road, Igham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AF
 Tel: 0732 455244
 Fax: 0732 350351

Construction

R. A. SLEATH & SON

GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION AND DRAINAGE

Specialising in Golf Greens
 Work undertaken for many leading Golf Course Architects
 Distance no object
Contact: Geoffrey R. Sleath
 Tel: Rotherham (0709) 862109 or 862075

S. E. DAVIS & SON LTD

Specialists in mixing USGA spec sand/peat Root Zone mixes.

Plant Hire available with drivers experienced in Golf Course Construction.

Multi-belt Powerscreen with shredder available.

Please contact:

ANDY DAVIS
 (0527) 893343/892716
 Mobile 0831 268547



GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

include
 FEASIBILITY
 PLANNING PROGRESSION
 DESIGN SPECIFICATION
 CONSTRUCTION
 DRIVING RANGES
 GOLF COURSE DRAINAGE
 High Street, Cranleigh, Surrey
 Tel. (0483) 274800

Course Accessories



NORTH WEST REGION - MOBILE VAN SALES
 MAIN AGENT for TACIT course equipment - Buckner Irrigation - plus wide range of accessories
 Request a call today. LYMM CHESHIRE WA13 9SA
 Tel: 083 182 6468

TACIT
 Looking for quality Golf Course Equipment?
 Look for Tacit
 48 Hillmorton Road, Rugby, CV22 5AD
 Tel: (0788) 568818



Midgley Nicholls

GOLF BALL DISPENSERS
 Up to 50,000 ball capacity
 Automatic Loading and Washing Systems. Full Guarantee and Servicing
 Manufactured in England by BHN Engineering Limited
 Also suppliers of a complete range of ancillary equipment including collectors, mats and balls, etc.
Tel: 0252 341665
Fax: 0273 571621
after office hours 0273 602637

Pattison

Manufacturers and suppliers of
course and driving range equipment.

Pattison & Co. Ltd
342 Selbourne Road, Luton,
Beds LU4 8NU
Tel: (0582) 597262
Fax: (0582) 505241

Drainage



White Horse Contractors Limited

CONSTRUCTION
DRAINAGE
VERTIDRAINING

Tel: (0865) 736272

Fertilizers

NEW Sierrablen™ Turfmix
Controlled Release Fertilizer
offers the complete turf feed
for the entire season.

First ever to offer controlled release NPK
and immediately available Nitrogen,
Phosphate and Iron.

Sierra UK Ltd

61 Loughborough Road
West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7LA
Tel: (0602) 455100. Fax: (0602) 455311

Grass Cutting Equipment

Reconditioned Golf Course Machinery!

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
OR EXPORT. PHONE FOR
CURRENT CATALOGUE NOW

GREENWARD ENGINEERING COMPANY
(0532) 676000
OR DIALING FROM ABROAD
+ 44 532 676000

Grass Germination



Grass Germination Sheet

- speeds up germination
 - encourages rapid uniform growth
- Tried, tested and proven by
groundsmen nationwide

Longbrook House, Ashton Vale Road, Bristol BS3 2HA
Tel: 0272 669684 Fax: 0272 231251

Grass Reinforcement



TECNOTILE

The flexible grass rein-
forcing surface available
in sheets of 10 sq. feet
Tel: 071 639 2846
Fax: 071 639 2618

Grass Seed Mixtures

Mommersteeg

Grass Seed Mixtures
For sports turf, amenity
and land reclamation use

Station Road, Finedon, Wellingborough,
Northamptonshire NN9 5NT
Telephone: Wellingborough (0933) 680891
Telex: 311234
Fax: (0933) 682022

MEMBERS OF A.G.M.A.
MEMBERS OF B.A.L.I.
MEMBERS OF B.G.C.C.

Grinding Machines

MOWER GRINDING MACHINES



ERIC HUNTER GRINDERS LTD

Hobson Industrial Estate,
Burnopfield,
Newcastle upon Tyne NE16 6EB
Tel: (0207) 70316.
Fax: (0207) 70312

Irrigation

TORO

-IRRISERVE- IRRIGATION ENGINEERS

Installation, Sales and Service
North West of England, covering
Lancashire and Cumbria
Contact: Paul Rimmer
Tel: (0772) 613995
Irriserve, 78 Liverpool Old Road, Much
Hoole, nr. Preston, Lancs PR4 4QA

T. & G. TURF IRRIGATION SERVICES

8 Whitcliffe Grove, Ripon,
North Yorkshire HG4 2JW
Tel: (0765) 2941 (0423) 864963
Full member of B.T.L.I.A.

BRITISH OVERHEAD IRRIGATION LTD.

- Manufacture Equipment
- Design and Install Systems

The Green, Upper Halliford,
Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8RY
Tel: (0932) 788301. Fax: (0932) 780437

TORO

PAR 4

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Installation Sales & Service
North & North East of England
Contact: E. B. & L. Simms
Tel: (0765) 602175. Fax: (0765) 603488
Par 4, Unit 18, Camphill Close, Dallamires
Lane, Ripon, N. Yorks HG4 1TT



RAIN BIRD®

The unbeatable partnership
in golf course irrigation

RINGWOOD, HANTS, BH24 1PA

Tel: (0425) 472251
Fax: (0425) 472258

Watermation

Manufacturers, designers
and installers of
**AUTOMATIC
IRRIGATION**
for 21 YEARS

Tongham Road, Aldershot,
Hants GU12 4LL
Tel: 0252 336838
Fax: 0252 336808

FLANDERBLADE LTD

Specialists in golf course irrigation

20 Whiteacre, Littlehampton,
West Sussex BN17 7JA
Tel: (0903) 724545
Full member of B.T.L.I.A.

PRIME WATERMEN LTD

Wangford, Beccles,
Suffolk NR34 8AX
Tel: 050 278 481
Fax: 050 278 729

Weathermatic Distributor



BELL TURF & IRRIGATION SERVICES

East Midlands Area
Installation, Sales and
Service

Everton, Doncaster, DN10 5DR
Tel: (0777) 817410

For all aspects of Golf Course

- Irrigation
- Installation
- Service
- Extensions/
Improvements
- Pumping
systems
- Advisory services



ILS, 34, Station Road,
Nassington,
Peterborough PE8 6QB.
Tel: (0780) 782375

L.S. Systems

- for
- ★ Water Storage Tanks ★
- ★ - Spraylances + Couplings ★
- ★ Dosmatic-Simple Fertilizer Dosing ★
- ★ Cooper Pegler Knapsack Sprayers ★
- ★ Pumps ★

- If it's water, contact Darren
at 188 Blackgate Lane,
Tarleton, Preston, Lancashire
on - 0772 815080
Fax - 0772 815417



STRANCO

Water Quality Control

pH and chlorine control and dosing systems for
your irrigation water, for improved turf quality.

Nationwide installation and commissioning
service, and advice.
Contact Brian Sykes
STRANCO LTD
Commercial Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex. Tel: (0323) 646163

Mole Ploughs

L. D. BOURGEIN OXFORD LTD.

South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5AZ
Tel: 0865 735420 Fax: 0865 326155



Sole UK Importers of
the CASE Mole Plow

Mower Spares

MOWER ACCESSORIES LTD

Manufacturers of high
quality lawnmower
blades and cylinders.
Suppliers of spares and
accessories.

65 Forncett Street
Sheffield S4

Tel: 0742 765825
Fax: 0742 765855

Pumps

GRUNDFOS PUMPS

FOR SPORTS & RECREATIONAL
TURF IRRIGATION, BOOSTING
AND WATER SUPPLY

Contact our sales offices today for
full information on the Grundfos range

SOUTH: (0525) 850000
NORTH: (0925) 813300

GRUNDFOS

GRUNDFOS PUMPS LTD GROVEBURY ROAD,
LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS, LU7 8JL

Railway Sleepers

RAILWAY SLEEPERS

Top quality for bunkers, bridges,
etc. Prompt nationwide delivery.

Tel: (0483) 720455

J. HARVEY SERVICES
Downside Goods Yard
Guildford Road, Woking,
Surrey GU22 7QE

Sand/Silica Sand



The leading supplier of
MONEYSTONE
Britain's
most popular,
top quality
BUNKER SAND

1a Clifton Street, Alderley Edge,
Cheshire
Tel: Alderley Edge (0625) 584571/
585143. Fax: (0625) 586130

ECC QUARRIES

Complete range of dried graded
silica sands for all purposes.

Contact John Deavin at
39 Hockliffe Street,
Leighton Buzzard,
Bedfordshire LU7 8HB.
Tel: (0525) 372201.
Fax: (0525) 851572.
Telex: 825868

Sand/Silica Sand

ARC BUCKLAND INDUSTRIAL MINERALS

Sand and Silica Company

COMPLETE RANGE OF HORTICULTURAL SANDS

Contact Lynda Jordan
Buckland Sand & Silica Co.
Reigate Heath, Reigate,
Surrey RH2 9RG
Tel: (0737) 240151

Sand



MONEYSTONE BUNKER SAND

Granular and Free Draining
Delivered loose bulk, all parts.

For cheapest prices contact:

Jim Burrows at
M & B SUPPLIES
Paynter Street, Fenton,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs ST4 3JL
Tel: (0782) 598383
Fax: (0782) 598174

CROW SAND & GRAVEL LTD

(Part of Gables Group)

Specialists in all types of sands and gravels contact:

DICK GUNN
at The Gables, Stanstead Road,
Elsenham, Essex, CM22 6LJ
Tel: 0279 647647. Fax: 0279 816627

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Sand

All sand requirements catered for
including lime free.
Also lime free Horticultural Grit - and
Wood Chips. Nationwide deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk

Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich,
Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

TOP GRADE TOP DRESSINGS

Lime free, dried or
moist - washed sands
Bulk 24 hour delivery

ARNOLD

SANDS FOR INDUSTRY

Joseph Arnold and Sons Ltd
Billington Road Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire LU7 8TW
Telephone: 0525 372264
Facsimile: 0525 851620

Suppliers of all grades of sand
and gravel drainage media.

HALL AGGREGATES (South East) LTD

RMC HOUSE, CANNING STREET,
MAIDSTONE, KENT ME14 2RX
Tel: (0622) 761281
Fax: (0622) 692433

Seats

LISTER

by

Green Brothers (Geebro) Ltd
South Road, Hailsham
BN27 3DT. Tel: (0323) 840771
Fax: (0323) 440109

Screeners/Shredders



GRADEALL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Manufacturers of the SS100
Screener/Shredder

9 Farlough Road, Dungannon,
Northern Ireland BT71 4DT
Tel: 08687 40484 • Fax: 08687 48823

Signs

SHELLEY SIGNS LIMITED.

ENTRANCE, "T" MARKERS & GENERAL SIGNS.
IN HIGHLY DURABLE GLASS REINFORCED PLASTIC.
EATON-ON-TERN, MARKET DRAYTON,
SHROPSHIRE, TF9 2BX.
Tel: 095 283 483. Fax: 095 283 755.

PEART'S QUICKSIGNS

Embossed aluminium
and engraved signs.
Unit 9, Littlemead Ind. Est.,
Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8ND
Tel: (0483) 272329 Fax: (0483) 272329

Stone Picking



DO YOU HAVE STONE AND DEBRIS TO REMOVE?

We have the equipment and experience to
undertake all stone picking and associated
landscape works.
All areas.
Contact PAUL JAMES
Tel: (0734) 320539
Fax: (0734) 320705

Tee Mats

TUFTURF

ARTIFICIAL GRASS
TEE MATS
& PUTTING SURFACES
FROM

CARPETITION LTD.
14 Kaffir Road, Edgerton,
Huddersfield HD2 2AN.
Tel: (0484) 428777
Fax: (0484) 423251

Top Soil

DAWITHERS

(Established 27 years)

Suppliers of
TOP DRESSING
VARIOUS GRADES OF SCREENED
LOAMS AND TOPSOILS
BUNKER AND WASHED SAND
Honeygot Farm, Honeygot lane,
Edenbridge, Kent
0732 865433 (office)
0860 543370 (mobile)

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Screened Top Soil

Including the finest of Black Penland soil.
Screened loams to customers' individual
specifications.
Nationwide deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk

Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich
Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

SCREENED TOP SOIL SUPPLIED
AND DELIVERED COUNTRYWIDE
ALSO WOOD MULCH
For quotes ring

JAMES DANDY

Tel 0244 335775 Mobile 0836 598388

Trenchers

CASE TRENCHERS TRENCH EX PLANT SALES

Dove Fields, Uttoxeter, Staffs.
Fax: (0889) 563140.
Tel: (0889) 565155

Turf

FRASER GROWN LAWN PROFESSIONAL



Specialists in growing all
grades of turf aimed specifi-
cally for all aspects of golf
course requirements. We
deliver with our own fleet of
vehicles with rear mounted
fork lifts and HIAB mounted
cranes, for your convenience.

Telephone

Chester (0244) 660901

Fax

Chester (0244) 660468

WE GROW TURF TO SUIT
THE FUTURE OF GOLF

INTURF

For High Quality Cultivated Turf
on the NEW BIG ROLL Turf Laying System
Tel: (0759) 304101 • Fax: (0759) 305229

Turf Dressings

BL BOUGHTON LOAM LTD.

For
TURF DRESSINGS
ROOT ZONE MIXES
SCREENED TOP SOILS
BUNKER SANDS
HORTICULTURAL
COMPOSTS

Telford Way, Kettering,
Northants
Tel: 0536 510515



The finest quality top dressings for fine turf

1a Clifton Street, Alderley Edge,
Cheshire
Tel: Alderley Edge (0625) 584571/
585143. Fax: (0625) 586130.

PROFESSIONAL TURF DRESSINGS FOR THE PROFESSION

Golf Turf Dressings

Professionally approved formulations for
use in construction and on the finest
greens. Tees and fairways. Nationwide
deliveries.

Bailey's of Norfolk

Brick Kiln Rd, Hevingham, Norwich
Norfolk NR10 5NL.
Tel. 060 548 607. Mobile 0860 661603

Rufford

TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES

Britain's No. 1 for

QUALITY
SERVICE
SHEER VALUE FOR
MONEY

Nucks Wood Quarry, Wiggins Lane,
Rufford, Nr Southport, Lancs L40 1UJ.
Tel. (0925) 232476

FEN TURF DRESSINGS LTD

Manufacturers and distributors of
FENDRESS also Prescription Dressings
Contact: Fen Turf Dressings Ltd
2 Angel Court, Dairy Yard, High Street,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7NL
Tel: Market Harborough (0858)
464346/433003. Fax: (0858) 434734

Turf Netting

CONWED TURF REINFORCEMENT

'for the fastest turf production'

WEST MIDLAND TURF GROWERS
Tel: (074-631) 247 Fax: (0746) 767331

Verti-Drain Hire

WORTH DRAINING

VERTIDRAINING and
HOLLOW CORING HIRE
with the G.A. 30

Contact Peter Bloodworth
WORTH DRAINING
Cornbecks Farm, Irnham, Grantham,
Lincolnshire Tel: 0476 84266

ROSS OLIVER SPORTS GROUND CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

The most comprehensive service
in the south west including

- VERTI-DRAIN for Greens and Sportsgrounds
- RYAN HOLLOW TYNER
- SAND SPREADERS
- DIRECT DRILLS

Contact: Ross Oliver, Greystones,
Trebudannon, Cornwall, TR8 4LP
Tel: (0637) 880257

Verti-Drain Hire

NBM BUTLERS TURF MAINTENANCE & MACHINERY

Gill Overseeder
Coremaster Hollow Corer
Top Dressing Machines
— all available for hire

Full range of secondhand machinery available for sale

Tel: 081 974 2708
or 0831 364774

Vertidrain, Charterhouse Overseeder, Coremaster Hollow Corer — all available for hire.

New and used Compact Tractors and Sportsturf Equipment supplied including Lesco 300D Greensmower.

R. J. & J. CAMPEY
The Dairy, Marton Hall Lane, Marton, Macclesfield.
Tel 0260 224568 or 0860 451011

E & S SPORTSGROUND CONTRACTORS

Only a sample of our services:
Drainage
Verti-Drain
Overseeding
Sand Spreading

Contact: RICHARD VEITCH
39 Knox Green, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 5NZ
Tel: 0344 860690



VERTIDRAIN MACHINERY SLIT DRAINAGE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Contact: Peter Holmes,
10 Carson Road,
Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 2RE
Tel: 0427 613035 • Mobile: 0831 359394

Classified

Construction

ROY DIXON Golf Course Construction

is...
A fully equipped and experienced team for hire or contract offering:

- 24 hour working schedule if required
- highest standards of workmanship
- UK and Europe

Tel: (0434) 673521 • Fax: 606601

For Sale

9,000
cubic metres of
GOOD QUALITY
TOP SOIL
for sale

Analysis report available on request.

Contact Mr or Mrs Newick on Tunbridge Wells (0892) 515400

Machinery Hire

A FULLY EQUIPPED AND EXPERIENCED TEAM IS AT YOUR SERVICE for hire or contract

Stone clearing machines include 3 and 4 meter rakers, 7 bar Kvermland and Sellar Pickiton elevators.

If you are involved in golf course construction, ring Roy Dixon

Tel: (0434) 673521 • Fax: 606601

Legislation

C.O.S.H.H.

Assessment and control books, hazardous substances books, FEPA golf record books, Kembin chemical cabinets.

Agriclerk

New House, High Street, Ticehurst, Wadhurst, East Sussex TN5 7AL. Tel: (0580) 201137 or (0860) 633214 (0580) 752904 Home

Turf Dressings

Marygrove

THE BEST

TOP DRESSING

WITH OPTIONAL SEAWEED ADDITIVES

Plus Bark, Fen and Meadow Loams, Silica Sands, Peat, Fertilisers, Manures and Grass Seed Mixtures

Manor Farm, Abbotsley, Cambs PE19 4UW

Call Carol:
Tel: (07677) 296
Fax: (07677) 7901

RECRUITMENT

ROYAL PORTRUSH GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

for its
Championship Links, 36 Holes, with a 9 Hole Pitch & Putt

Applications are invited from Head Greenkeepers and Assistant Greenkeepers for this position. Salary negotiable. Accommodation may be provided.

Applications should be received in writing on or before Friday 6th September 1991 and include a full CV, stating present salary,

to:
The Secretary Manager
Royal Portrush Golf Club, Dunluce Road, Portrush, Co. Antrim BT56 8JQ

GREENKEEPERS AND COURSE MANAGERS

Seeking a career move?

SEYMOUR PERSONNEL

is an agency designed to help you meet your requirements.

Confidential and effective service

For further details contact:



84a Guarford Road, Malvern, Worcestershire. WR14 3QT
Telephone: (0684) 569204

Employment Agencies Act Reg. M4363

Grass Cutting Equipment

F.A.R.M. Ltd

For the best in Rotary and Flail Mowers.
Front Mounted/Rear Mounted with side or rear discharge.
4' to 7'6" cutting width
Rotary Tillers
Compact Power Harrows

Further details:
Tel: 0386 765770
0386 442082
Fax: 0386 765183

Golf Course Machinery

LODGWAY TURFCARE

Specialists in:
☆ Low Pressure Conversion Kits
☆ Iseki Compact Tractors
☆ Iseki Greencare Equipment
☆ Lesco Greens Mowers
☆ Lesco Gang Mowers
☆ Allen Products
☆ Zetor 50 HP Fairway Tractors.
Tyre and wheel advice given on course (no obligation)
Modify your tractor for fairway duties

Lodgway Tractor Co. Ltd.
Chicksands, Shefford, Beds SG17 5QB
Contact: Chris Rook (0462) 816122
After hours: (0767) 40626 • Mobile: (0860) 898747
Fax: (0462) 850852

Workshop Equipment

R+R HYDRAULIC WORK BENCHES

From the compact "Junior" to the 2.2m x 1m decked "Groundsman", R+R have a hydraulic bench to raise the standard of your working conditions.

0480 411146

WORKING HARD NEEDN'T BE HARD WORK!

R+R (UK) Ltd., Blackstone Road, Stukeley Meadows Industrial Estate, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 6EF See us on Stand H64 at the IOG Show

GOLF CARE GRUPPE

Golf Care is a rapidly expanding company offering complete maintenance packages to new and existing golf clubs in Germany. The Group is looking to recruit experienced Greenkeepers for its Southern German operating company, Golf Care GmbH Golfplatzpflege.

ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER

You will be working with the Head Greenkeeper in a team of up to 14, where you will be fulfilling the function of Assistant Head Greenkeeper together with one colleague. Depending on your development you will have the opportunity for rapid promotion. General terms of the offer are:

Salary up to DM 39,000 (ca. Sterl. 13,300) per annum
Profit Share Discretionary Profit Share
Additional Contributory Private Health Insurance
 Contributory Pension Scheme
 25 days Paid Vacation per annum
 Based in Southern Bavaria
 Company Sponsorship for Further Education

HEAD GREENKEEPER

You will be responsible for the maintenance of two clubs and will have a team of up to 14 to coordinate and lead. You will be directly responsible to the Managing Partner. General terms of the offer are:

Salary up to DM 72,000 (ca. Sterl. 24,500) per annum
Bonus Discretionary Performance Bonus
Profit Share Discretionary Profit Share
Additional Contributory Private Health Insurance
 Contributory Pension Scheme
 25 days Paid Vacation per annum
 Based in Southern Bavaria
 Experience in Germany would be beneficial

In both positions, we are looking for team players with enthusiasm and drive to ensure their and the Group's long term success.

If you are interested please respond in writing with full CV to:

Sven Moos, Managing Partner, Golf Care GmbH Golfplatzpflege

Irmgardstrasse 22

8000 Munich 71, Germany

or call Sven Moos on 010 49 89 7900052 with any questions you might have.

ROMILEY GOLF CLUB

require an

ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER

to join an ambitious and progressive team.

Applicants should be City & Guilds qualified or equivalent, have a sound knowledge of modern greenkeeping methods, including maintenance of machinery and irrigation systems.

The successful applicant should be capable of leading a team, after initial guidance from the head greenkeeper.

Salary negotiable, no accommodation available.

Send full CV to:

**The Secretary
 Romiley Golf Club
 Goosehouse Green
 Romiley
 Cheshire**



Assistant Superintendent required

For this prestigious Jack Nicklaus designed 18 hole World Class Golf Course, 3 hole Teaching Academy and Practice Area.

A formal greenkeeping qualification is preferred but proven experience of working to high standards in the management of the course will be equally acceptable.

The successful candidate shall be fully capable of deputising for the Golf Course Superintendent and have the ability to teach and motivate staff.

Please apply with your full CV to:

**Mr Aidan O'Hara,
 Golf Course Superintendent, Mount Juliet,
 Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.**



HELENSBURGH GOLF CLUB

require a

COURSE MANAGER

This is a new appointment with full responsibility for the management of an 18 hole golf course in a magnificent setting overlooking the Clyde estuary and Loch Lomond. The successful candidate will be fully involved in the planning and execution of expansion and development anticipated in the near future.

Applicants must be experienced in all aspects of course management with the proven ability to control and motivate staff.

Salary is negotiable in accordance with qualifications and experience. Accommodation or relocation assistance will be offered to the suitable candidate.

Applications in writing with full CV and references should be sent to:

The Secretary
Helensburgh Golf Club
25 East Abercromby Street
Helensburgh
Dunbartonshire G84 9JD



GRASS TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL LTD

AGRONOMIST

This up and coming company in Golf Course design and consultancy require a suitably qualified agronomist to enhance its present team.

The successful applicant should be qualified in soil science, turfgrass management, disease and weed identification and all other agronomic facts relating to golf course advisory work.

The successful applicant will be expected to travel extensively throughout Great Britain, Ireland and Europe. Conditions of employment and salary will be negotiable. Apply in writing with full CV to:

Mr E. B. Connaughton B.Sc
Grass Technology International Ltd
Cunningham Road
Springkerse Industrial Estate
STIRLING FK7 7SL



THE GREENOCK GOLF CLUB

invite applications for the position of

COURSE MANAGER

Applicants should have thorough knowledge of modern greenkeeping techniques in particular in relation to moorland turf and wide experience of use and maintenance of machinery, equipment and watering systems. Ability to manage staff and organise and participate in work programmes will be essential.

Greenock Golf Club has 27 holes and has a progressive attitude to conditions of employment and course development.

Salary: £15,000 circa. No accommodation.

Applications in writing with details of age and experience to:

The Secretary,
Greenock Golf Club,
Forsyth Street, Greenock,
Renfrewshire PA16 8RE



KOSAIDO

OLD THORNS

GOLF COURSE • HOTEL • RESTAURANTS

invites applications for

FIRST ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Applicants should have a minimum of five years practical experience and further college training will be given where suitable.

Single accommodation is available for this senior position.

Please write to Mr D. McLellan, Course Manager, or telephone for an application form.

London Kosaido Co. Ltd.
Longmoor Road
Liphook
Hampshire GU30 7PE
Telephone: 0428 724555

VICARS CROSS GOLF CLUB LIMITED

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF

HEAD GREENKEEPER

From persons of proven ability with appropriate qualifications and experience in all aspects of course maintenance related to a parkland course.

An ability to supervise and motivate staff are essential qualities required, together with a comprehensive knowledge of machinery and its maintenance.

The salary is circa £14,000 per annum depending on experience and qualifications.

Three-bedroomed flat accommodation on site is available if required at appropriate rental.

Due to the early retirement of the present post holder, the club wishes to make an immediate appointment.

Full details of the post and of the club, together with an application form are available from:

**The Secretary/Manager
Vicars Cross Golf Club Ltd
Tarvin Road, Great Barrow, Chester CH3 7HN
Telephone: (0244) 335174**

THE PUCKRUP HALL HOTEL GOLF COURSE TEWKSBURY

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

This is an excellent opportunity for a fully qualified greenkeeper to develop and manage a newly constructed golf course due for opening in 1993. The approved greenkeeper must be fully conversant in all matters relating to turf culture, machinery purchase and man management.

The golf course is the first to be developed for the Country Mansion Hotels Ltd., by the newly formed Golf Design Partnership, architect Simon Gidman, and is being constructed to international standards of design and specification.

Salary negotiable according to qualifications and experience.

Please reply in the first instance enclosing CV and other relevant experience to:

**S. Gidman
The Golf Design Partnership
10 Newland Mill
Witney, Oxon OX8 6HH**



STAVERTON PARK HOTEL AND GOLFING COMPLEX

require a

COURSE MANAGER



Applications are now invited for the challenging position of Course Manager at the Staverton Park Hotel and Golfing Complex in Northamptonshire.

This eighteen hole par 71 Parkland Golf Course is in excellent condition and now needs a committed and enthusiastic Course Manager to further improve and develop on what has been established by our previous Course Manager.

The ability to control costs sensibly and motivate staff are essential along with the eye for great attention to detail.

The course adjoins the Staverton Park Hotel which is establishing a reputation as one of the finest golfing hotels in the United Kingdom.

This is an exceptional opportunity for the right candidate. Salary negotiable according to qualifications and previous experience. This is a live-out position.

**Please reply in writing in the strictest confidence to:
Mr S. Essex, General Manager, Staverton Park
Hotel and Golfing Complex, Staverton, Daventry,
Northants, NN11 6JT.**

JENNY LEE SMITH GOLF CENTRE requires GREENKEEPER

To maintain 9 hole par 3 golf course.
Must have at least three years experience.
Salary: £10,000 - £13,000 pa negotiable.
No accommodation. Please apply to:
**JLS Golf Centre, Thong Lane, Gravesend,
Kent DA12 4LG**

ALFORD GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited for the above position to take charge of our 18 hole Parkland Golf Course.

A thorough knowledge of modern greenkeeping practices, irrigation systems and construction methods, along with the ability to organise and motivate staff are essential.

Salary is negotiable according to qualifications and experience.

Apply in writing to:

**The Secretary, Alford Golf Club, Montgarie Road, Alford,
Aberdeenshire AB3 8AE.**

More Recruitment advertising on Page 50

54 ➔ Our 1991 Regional Seminar is to be held on Wednesday November 20th at the Warwickshire College of Agriculture, Moreton Morrell. Speakers so far include David Senior, Vitax, on Fungal Diseases, Robin Hume on Turf Irrigation, Michael Boddy, George Walker and Sons, on Trees, Barry Cooper on Surveying for Drainage and our own Education Officer, David Golding.

ROGER WILLIAMS

SOUTH WALES

The regional Iseki qualifier held at my home course on June 27th is detailed in the South West and Wales Region report below. It was with a certain amount of fear and trepidation that I viewed a day which, owing to recent inclement weather and an invasion of over sixty experts, might have been a problem but which turned out fine. The sun shone and everyone enjoyed a grand day of golf.

RESULTS G Cox 78, H Morgan 74, G Price 80, J Carter 84, T King 70, M Davies 78, H Parry 81, J

AROUND THE GREEN

Bartlett-Jones 83, M Norfolk 81, C Hallett 83, T Millar 87, D Jones 81, P Swain 74, Team score (3rd overall) 789. The national Iseki qualifiers are T King and P Swain.

My thanks to Iseki on behalf of the section for their sponsorship generosity.

PHILIP SWAIN

SOUTH WEST and WALES REGION

Following two weeks of rain the sun shone for our regional Iseki final at Tredegar Park GC, and proved once again to be an excellent day both for golf and for social activities. One change from previous years was the replacement of nearest

ing at the start of the day, with an Anneka Rice touch they not only provided sandwiches during the day, but also gave us a superb dinner to round off the evening. The atmosphere at Tredegar Park was warm and friendly and everyone left with happy memories – my thanks to all concerned.

Now we look forward to the finals at Hillside with relish, for once again I am sure we have the best team – this despite Steve Broad's assertions of the merits of other teams!

GORDON CHILD

SOUTH EAST REGION

There is something quite special about Ham Manor GC, the venue for the South East regional Iseki qualifier. For a start, it is in a delightfully scenic area. Second, it is one hell of a golf course, tough but fair with prolific rough and exquisite greens. Third, it has as its head greenkeeper a wizard of the links, one George Barr. In George's case there is a genuine feeling amongst his peers of awe and admiration for the man and his golf course. Quite simply, he performs daily miracles! All power then to George and his dedicated team for our exposure to his particular form of spell binding magic.

RESULTS: Category 1 – 1st Darren Burdis (London) 75-6=69. 2nd Martin Smith (London) 75-5=70. 3rd Alan Sheppard (Kent) 76-4=72. Category 2 – 1st R Washbrook (London) 82-17=65. 2nd M Private (Sussex) 78-10=68. 3rd Steve Denton (E. Anglia) 83-13=70. Category 3 – 1st Phillip Hirst (Kent) 94-23=71. 2nd P Ray (Sussex) 91-19=72. 3rd N Brown (E. Anglia) 92-20=72. Team award: Sussex. (Apologies for missing Christian names, these were not forthcoming.)

An unfortunate incident occurred which in some ways served to highlight a problem which may come up from time to time. One competitor, playing to a given BIGGA section handicap of nine, declared in passing to his playing companions that his Club handicap was seven. The outcome of this, brought in under rule 6-2b, meant disqualification. In the player's case, he quite innocently thought that he should play to the handicap of his BIGGA section, however – the Rules of Golf state "that if a handicap is recorded that is higher than that to which he is entitled, and this affects the number of strokes received, he shall be disqualified." It is the player's responsibility to ensure accuracy.

DAVID WHITE

FOR HIRE



TORO HYDROJECT Turf aeration 'the easy way'

Inject new life into your greens without disrupting the playing surface.

Now also offering Toro Greens Hollow Corer

D & E Turf Maintenance of Shildon
0388-772844 • 0836-376944

++++++NATIONWIDE SERVICE++++++

pin and longest drive with an Inter Section competition. This created much friendly rivalry and at the end only 20 shots separated first from last.

RESULTS: Category 1- 1st J Cripps 77-7=70. 2nd J Taylor 74-2=72. 3rd J Newman 78-6=72. Reserve R Hall 74. Category 2- 1st T King 83-13=70. 2nd P Connett 82-11=71. 3rd P Swain 85-11=74. Reserve T Gooch 75. Category 3 – 1st C Pine 97-26=71. 2nd A Kift 94-22=72 J B Robinson 95-22=73. Reserve J Leigh 73. Team Shield Winners: Devon and Cornwall.

Our thanks to Iseki and especially Ian Pogson, who presented the prizes and claimed to have hit the final green in one – a golfing career highlight! Also to Steve Broad, who manoeuvred the trailer down a path 2" narrower than its width, and especially to Phil Swain and his staff for the excellent course presentation.

The real success of the day belongs to Tredegar Park GC, who overcame the impossible. Finding themselves without cater-



EUROPE'S FINEST TURF

See us on Stand PCS1 No. 3-5 at the IOG

DEPOTS NATIONWIDE

ROLAWN LTD. ELVINGTON, YORK YO4 5AR. TELEPHONE (0904) 608661

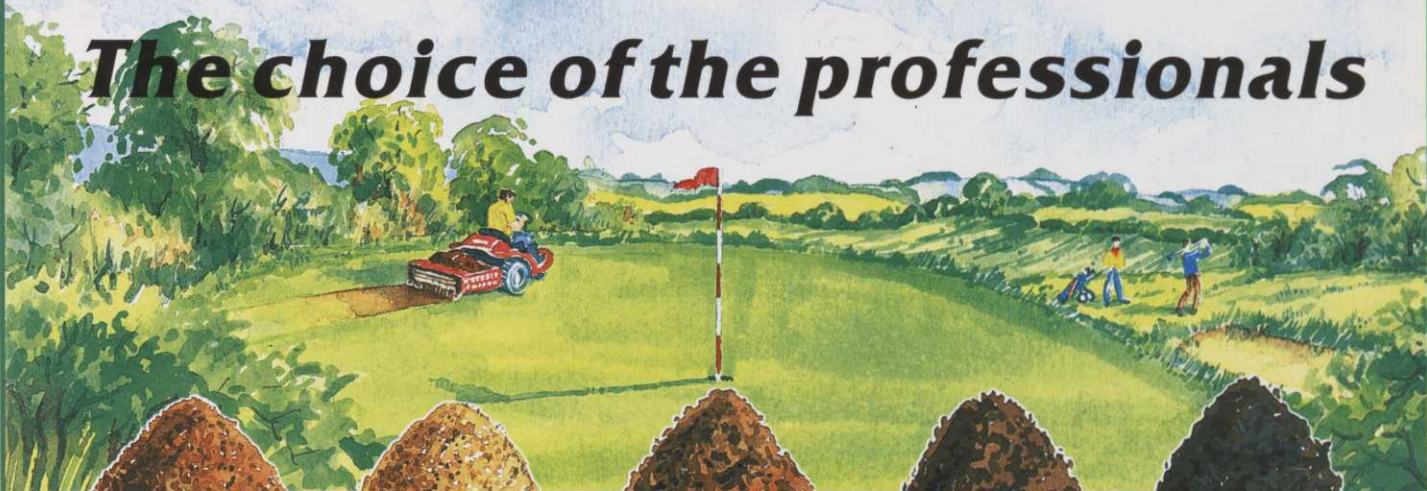
Britain's
No.1
For Service
and Quality

RUFFORD.

See us on Stand
PCS2 No. 29 at the IOG

NOW THE **COMPLETE RANGE.**

The choice of the professionals



TOP-DRESSINGS

No.1 Medium/Fine Dressing from our famous Nucks Wood Quarry

No.2 Medium/Fine Dressing from our Warrington Quarry

No.3 A Coarser Grade Dressing from our Warrington Quarry



SANDS

Free draining lime free sands for Top Dressings, Bunkers, Drainage and Winter Sports pitches.

Sand suitable for USGA putting green construction.



ROOT ZONE MIX

Can meet USGA Specification, standard and individual mixes available for construction/reconstruction of Golf Greens and Tees. Consistency of Materials and unique delivery service guaranteed.



SCREENED SOIL

Screened and shredded, this soil is ideal for all Construction, Divotting and Maintenance work. It is of Quarry origin and has guaranteed consistent quality.



SEDGE PEAT

Mixed with No.1, No.2, or No.3 Top-Dressings (at no extra cost) will aid moisture retention during dry summer months especially for Links Courses. Also available on its own or as a tree planting compost.

NATURALLY
ORGANIC

The success of keeping your Golf Course or Sports Ground in top condition depends on you among other things buying top quality products.

All Rufford Products are produced from our own Quarries with no need to import Sands or Soils. All have been approved by leading agronomists and

Soil Scientists. Consistency of quality and our vast reserves enable you to purchase with total confidence.

You are invited to visit our Quarries to judge for yourselves. Quite a number of course Managers and Agronomists have already done so and we would like to think they were just a little impressed.

All enquiries:-

(0925) 232476

Acton Grange Quarry, Birchwood lane, Moore, Warrington, WA4 6XE

Also at: Nucks Wood Quarry, Wiggins Lane, Rufford, Nr Southport, Lancashire, L40 1UJ. **Head Office: 061-747 4333**

Rufford

TOP-DRESS SUPPLIES

**Ring us or your nearest distributor
for immediate attention.**

See us on Cov Pav C Stand No 3
at the IOG Show



The friendly benefits of Sierrablen™ turfmix controlled release fertilizer.

It's a proven fact. Sierrablen controlled release plant nutrients results in stronger and greener turf. You'll get an even colour and growth throughout the season with one application. What's more, research has shown that with Sierrablen, nitrate pollution can be greatly reduced depending on your growing condition. It's economical too: you save up to 50% of the

fertilizer quantity used, in comparison with conventional fertilizers. Turn to the friendly benefits of Sierrablen turfmix controlled release fertilizer. Post the coupon in a sealed envelope to Sierra UK Ltd, Freepost, Nottingham NG2 1BR and we'll send you all information by return, including specific recommendations for your crop. Or phone us: (0602) 455100.



Sierrablen™ is a registered trademark of Grace-Sierra Horticultural Products, USA.

Coupon

Name
Place
My main crop species are

Address

Telephone



GI.8.91

AD
REF
161